

Savannah Fire & Emergency Services

2015 Annual Report



“....committed to those we serve”

121 East Oglethorpe Avenue
Savannah Georgia 31401
(912) 651-6754

About the Department:

Savannah Fire and Emergency Services (SFES) is steeped in history that dates to the city's first organized fire company in 1759. 152 years later it became the first fully-mechanized fire department in the U.S. Savannah Fire is a progressive, future-focused organization comprised of 326 professional, fully-trained, career firefighters. SFES operates 15 fire stations that are strategically located throughout the City of Savannah to ensure a quick response to the needs of citizens and visitors. Included in this report are the following sections:

- ◆ Operations
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Facilities
- ◆ Fleet
- ◆ Investigations
- ◆ Fire Marshal
- ◆ Emergency Management
- ◆ Public Education and Information

VISION STATEMENT

We are committed to serving our community with the utmost levels of professionalism and efficiency in relation to the preservation of life and property

ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLES

Professionalism
Accountability
Service Excellence
Diversity
Customer & Employee Satisfaction
Leadership
Teamwork
Safety
Loyalty
Trust
Effective Communication

Greetings from the Fire Chiefs Office



Charles G. Middleton
Fire Chief

Thank you for reading the Savannah Fire & Emergency Services (SFES) 2015 Annual Report. We are a professional career Fire Department, comprised of 326 uniformed firefighters and 18 administrative/support staff.

We serve a population of 137,000 people, with a service area of 103 square miles. Components of area service area include Urban, Suburban, Rural, & Industrial firefighting.

Services are delivered from 15 Fire Stations. Service Response Units are: 15 Engine Companies, 5 Ladder Companies, 2 Heavy Rescue Companies, 1 Fireboat, & assorted support marine vessels and equipment, located strategically throughout the City.

In addition to structural firefighting, we also are the primary provider of Hazardous Materials (HazMat) and Technical Rescue Services; Industrial, Marine & Shipboard Firefighting.

This report will list the activities of the 3 major Departments within SFES, Operations, Logistics, and Emergency Management. This report details the work of the Divisions contained within each Department, to include our Public Education activities.

OPERATIONS



The goal of Savannah Fire & Emergency Services Operations Department is to support the Community Risk Reduction initiative. To support this initiative, the Operations Department utilizes 15 Fire Stations, 23 Companies and 326 personnel that are strategically placed throughout the city in relation to the city's risk assessment. By constantly monitoring our response efforts through data collection, the Operations Department is able to effectively and efficiently respond to a wide spectrum of natural and manmade incidents. The results of our efforts have led to receiving the highest Insurance Services Office rating, ISO Class -1. All this ensures that we stay true to our mission, "...committed to those we serve".

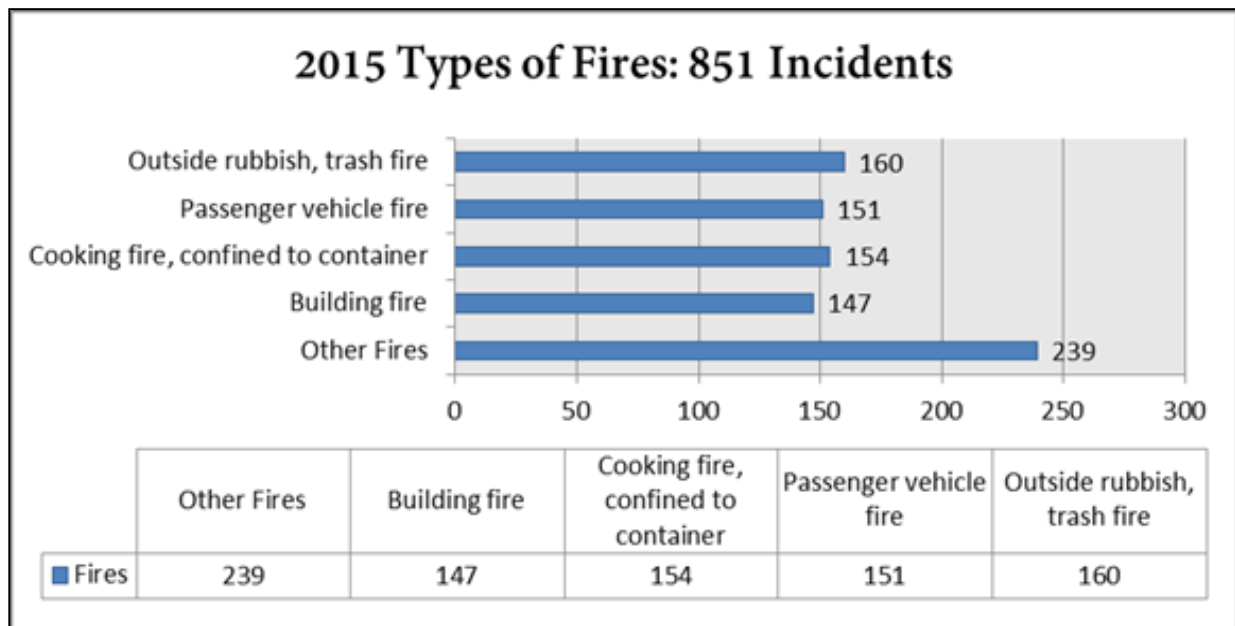


OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

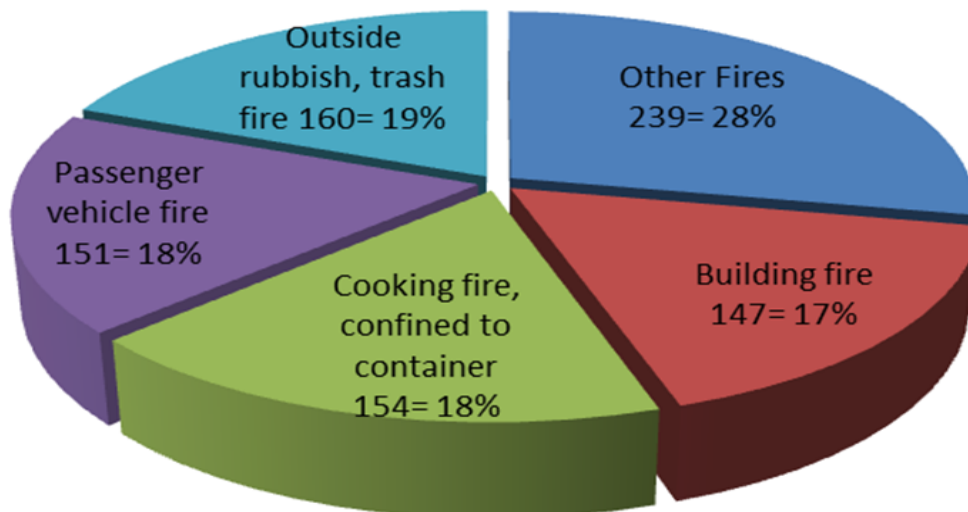


The Operations Division responded to 7,204 incidents in 2015. These incidents are broken down into four categories: Fires, Emergency Medical Responses, Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescues. The diversity and capabilities of our responses demonstrates why SFES is a ISO Class –1 Department.

2015 Total Call Volume by Type: 7,204 Incidents



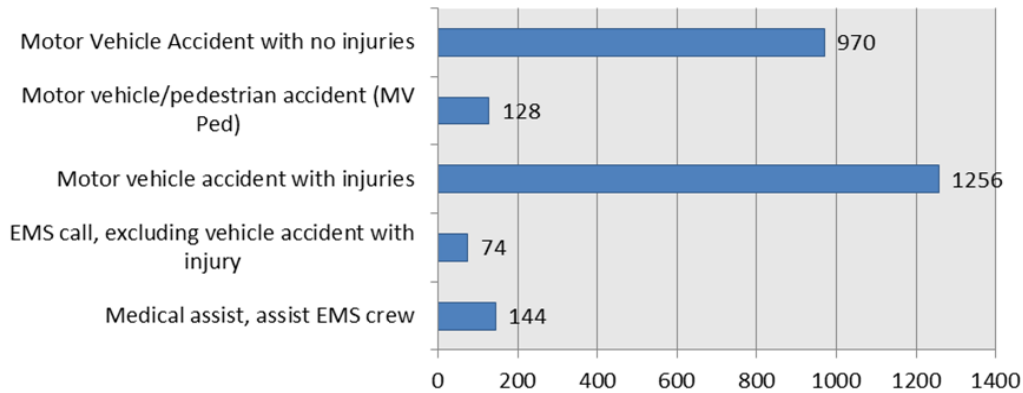
2015 Total Fire Incidents: 851



OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

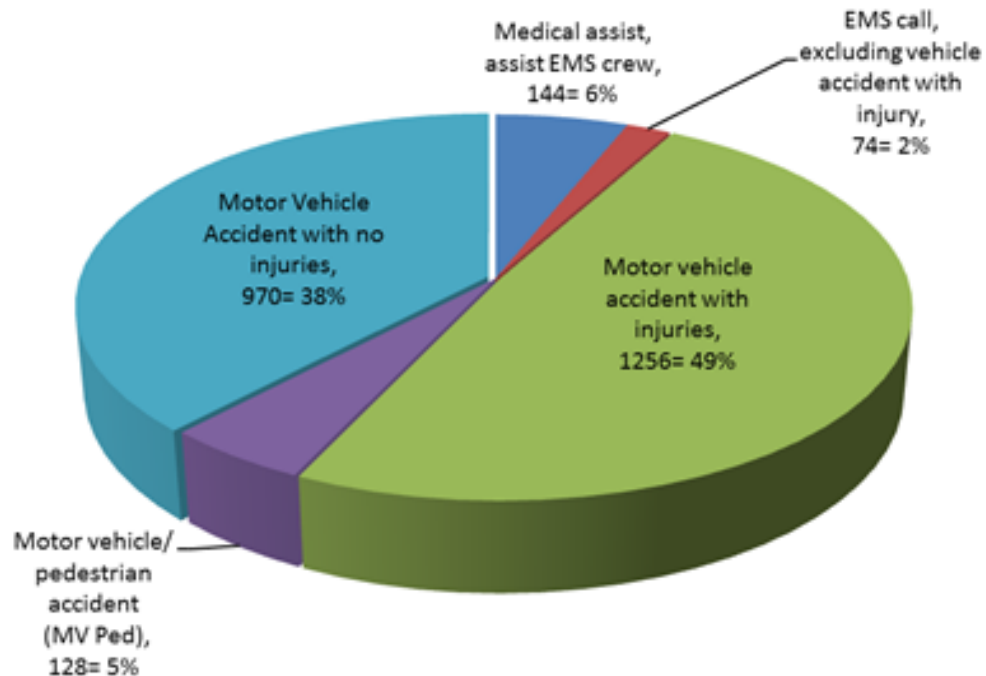


2015 Emergency Medical Responses: 2,572



| EMR Types | Medical assist, assist EMS crew | EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury | Motor vehicle accident with injuries | Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped) | Motor Vehicle Accident with no injuries |
|-----------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| | 144 | 74 | 1256 | 128 | 970 |

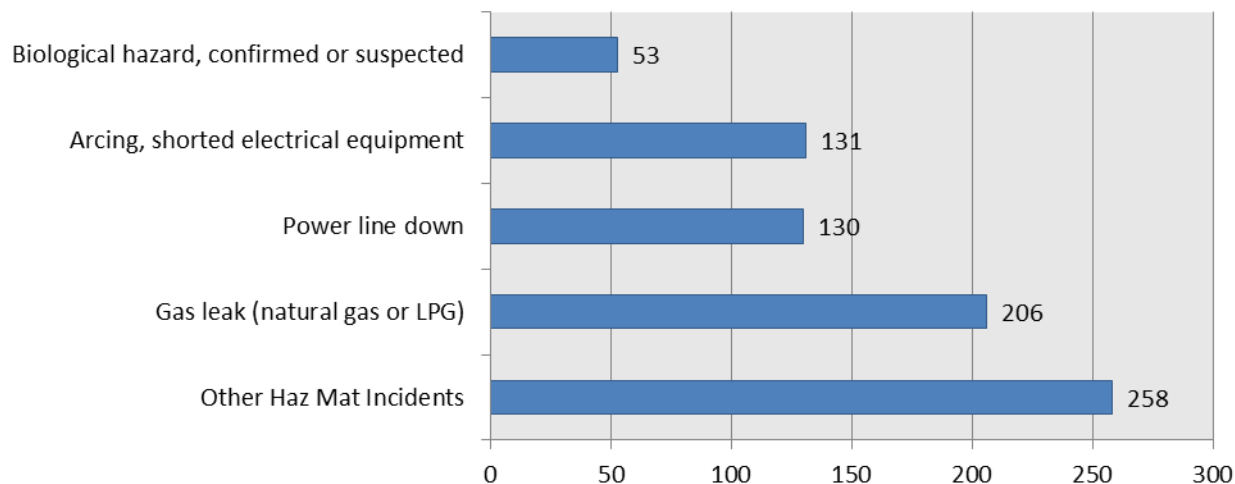
2015 Emergency Medical Response: 2572



OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

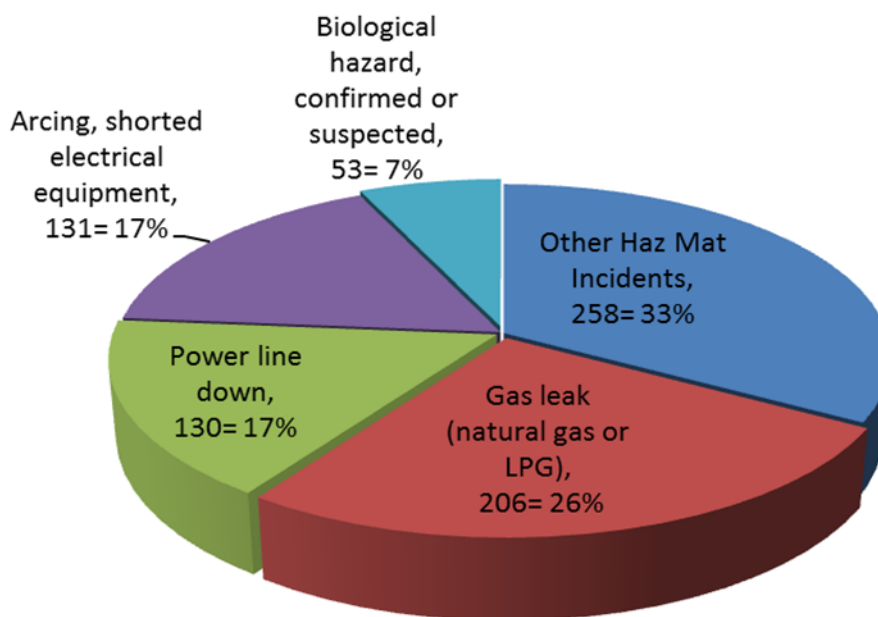


2015 Hazardous Materials Incidents: 778



| | Other Haz Mat Incidents | Gas leak (natural gas or LPG) | Power line down | Arcing, shorted electrical equipment | Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| ■ Haz Mat Incidents | 258 | 206 | 130 | 131 | 53 |

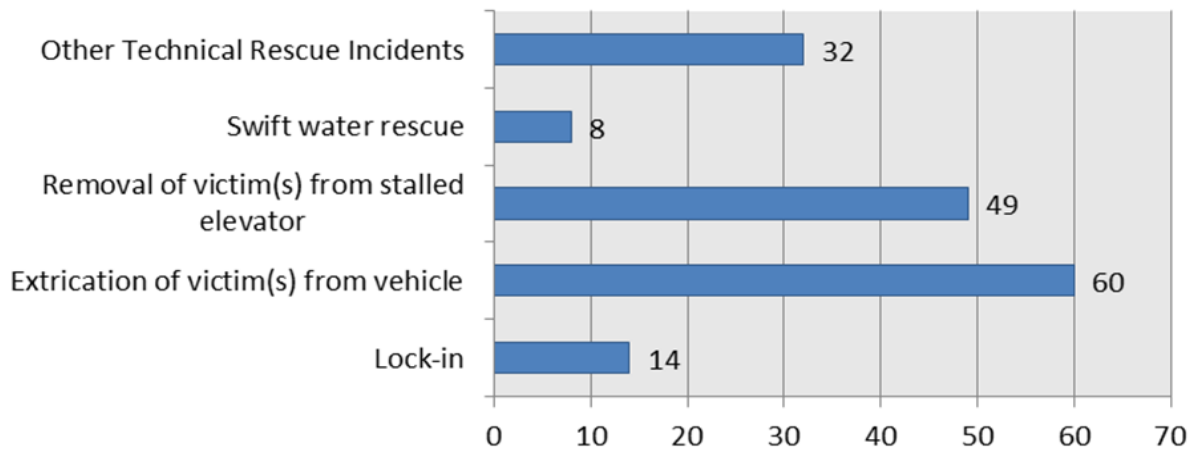
2015 Hazardous Materials Incidents: 778



OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

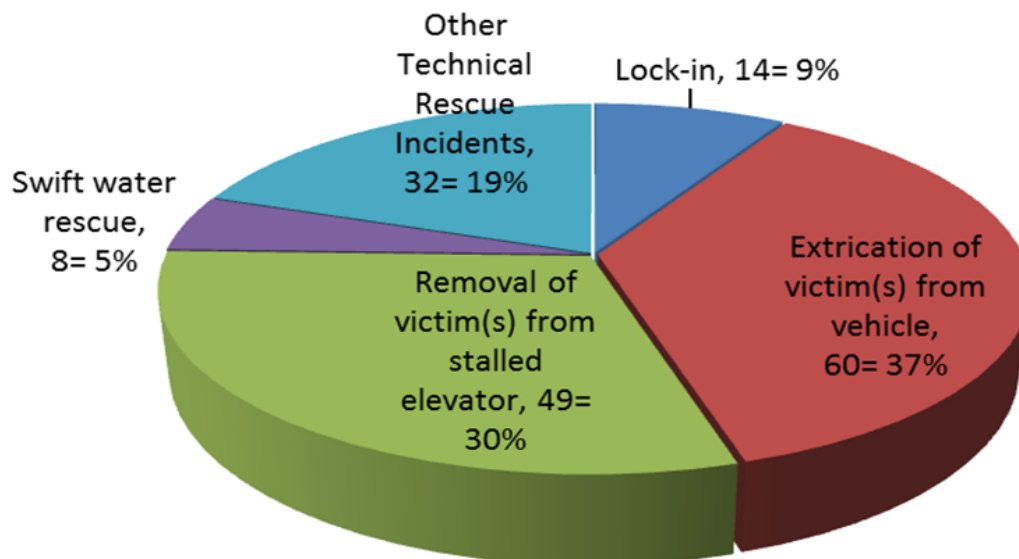


2015 Technical Rescue Incidents: 163



| | Lock-in | Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle | Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator | Swift water rescue | Other Technical Rescue Incidents |
|-----------------|---------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| ■ TRT Incidents | 14 | 60 | 49 | 8 | 32 |

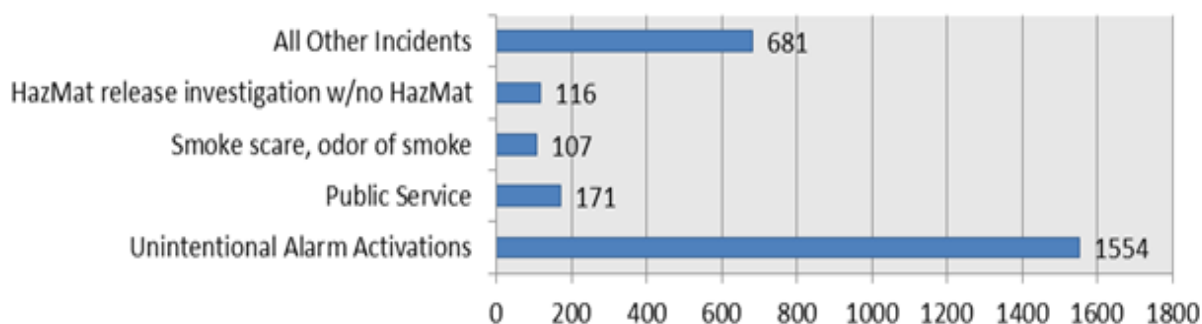
2015 Technical Rescue Incidents: 163





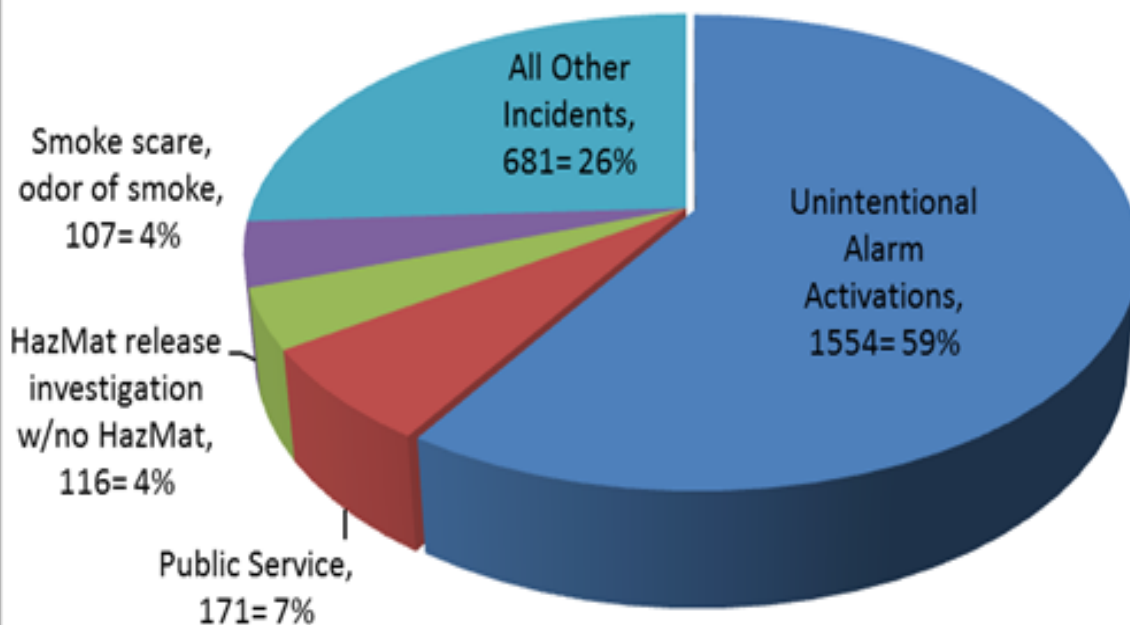
OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

2015 Other Incidents: 2,629



| | Unintentional Alarm Activations | Public Service | Smoke scare, odor of smoke | HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat | All Other Incidents |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Other Incidents | 1554 | 171 | 107 | 116 | 681 |

2015 All Other Incidents: 2,629

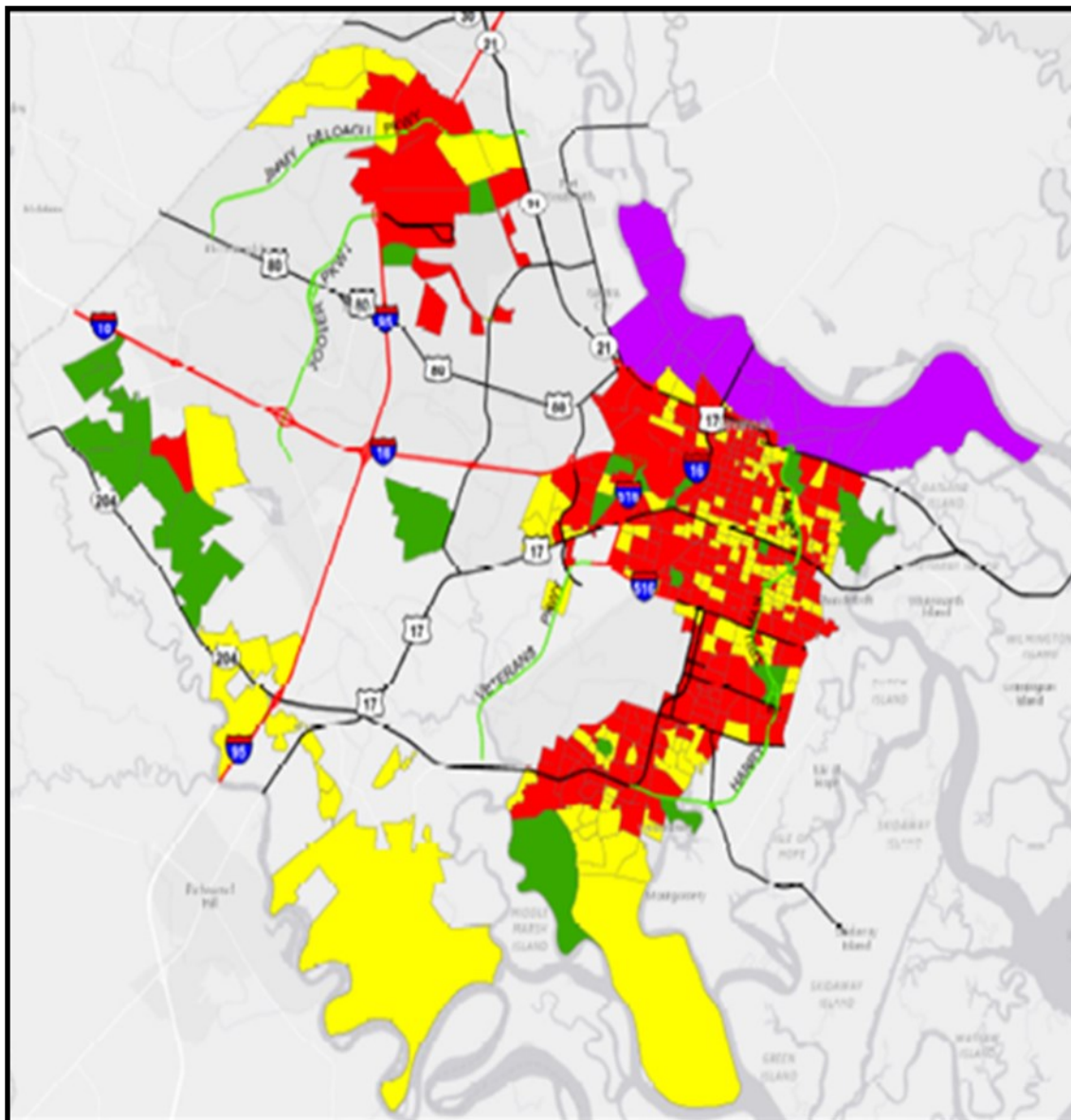




OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

Pre-Fire Plans

SFES personnel conducted over 800 Pre-Fire Plans within our response area. These Pre-Fire Plans are vital for our goal of Community Risk Reduction however; these plans also identify potential hazards for responding firefighters. In addition to risk reduction and safety, these Pre-Fire Plans assisted with the development of the Standards of Cover which produced a citywide Risk Assessment map (see below). To complete such important tasks, SFES personnel utilized approximately 3,000 staff hours in 2015.



Savannah Fire & Emergency Services
Risk, Hazard, and Value Evaluation (RHAVE)



LOGISTICS



The Logistics Department is comprised of the following Divisions: Building Construction and Maintenance, Fleet Management, Service Support, Budget & Purchase, Human Resource Administration, Fire Prevention, Arson Investigation, and Training.





LOGISTICS / TRAINING

Training Division

The Training Division of SFES is composed of one Training Division Chief and three Fire Captains, who assist in the management of training and recruitment for the bureau. The training program includes the following areas: Executive Management Level Training, Fire Officer Development, Fire Operations Training, Hazardous Material, Technical Rescue Training, and New Fire Recruit Training. The training division is also responsible for the recruitment and testing of applicants who seek a career within SFES.





LOGISTICS / TRAINING

Each year the Training Division is responsible to provide the necessary training requirements outlined by Georgia Standards and Training Council and the Insurance Services Office. Annually, each operational firefighter is required to complete a training program that is rank dependent (see matrix below). Additionally, job specific training and specialized training such as Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue and Marine training will increase these program hours above 400 hours of annual training.

Recruit Training (14 weeks)

- National Professional Qualifications Firefighter I
- National Professional Qualifications Firefighter II
- National Professional Qualifications Hazardous Materials Awareness
- National Professional Qualifications Hazardous Materials Operations
- Emergency Medical Responder w/ CPR and AED
- Emergency Vehicle Operations Course
- Incident Command System Training levels 100, 200 and 700

20 Recruits in 2015

Total Staff Training Hours for Recruits= 20 x 560= **11,200**





LOGISTICS / TRAINING

Firefighter/ Advanced Firefighter

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Firefighter I and II: 200 hours

NFPA 1002 Apparatus Operator: 12 hours (Driver Certified)

NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials: 10 hours

Training Facility Use: 18 hours

Emergency Medical Responder: 4 hours

160 Firefighters/ Advanced Firefighters



Total Staff Training Hours for Firefighters= $244 \times 160 =$ **39,040**

Master Firefighter

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Firefighter I and II: 200 hours

NFPA 1002 Apparatus Operator: 12 hours

NFPA 1021 Company Officer: 12 Hours

NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials: 10 hours

Training Facility Use: 18 hours

Emergency Medical Responder: 4 hours

82 Master Firefighters



Total Staff Training Hours for Master Firefighters= $256 \times 82 =$ **20,992**



LOGISTICS / TRAINING

Fire Captain

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Firefighter I and II: 200 hours

NFPA 1021 Company Officer: 12 Hours

NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials: 10 hours

Training Facility Use: 18 hours

Emergency Medical Responder: 4 hours

70 Fire Captains



Total Staff Training Hours for Fire Captains= $244 \times 70 =$ **17,080**

Battalion Chiefs

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1021 Chief Officer: 40 hours

11 Battalion Chiefs



Total Staff Training Hours= $40 \times 11 =$ **440**



LOGISTICS / TRAINING

Fire Marshals and Investigators

24 hours of continual training in their professional subject matter.

5 Fire Marshals

2 Fire Investigators

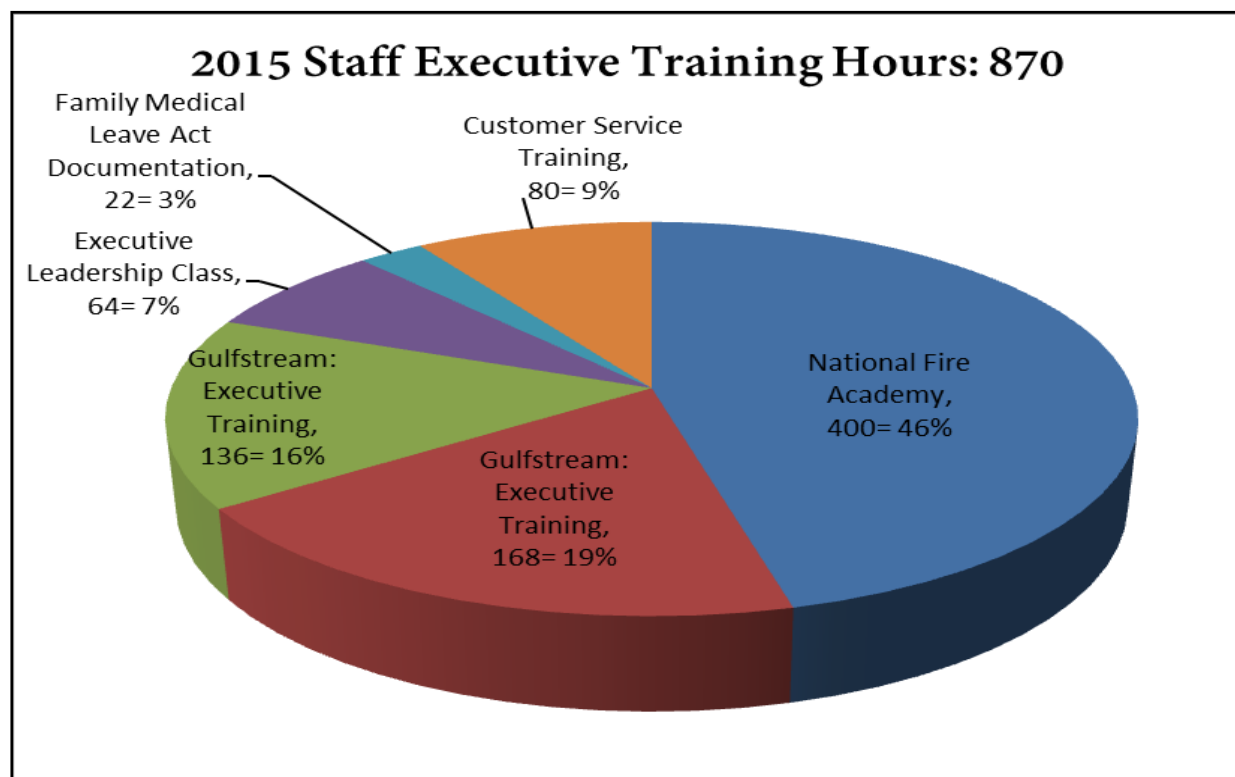
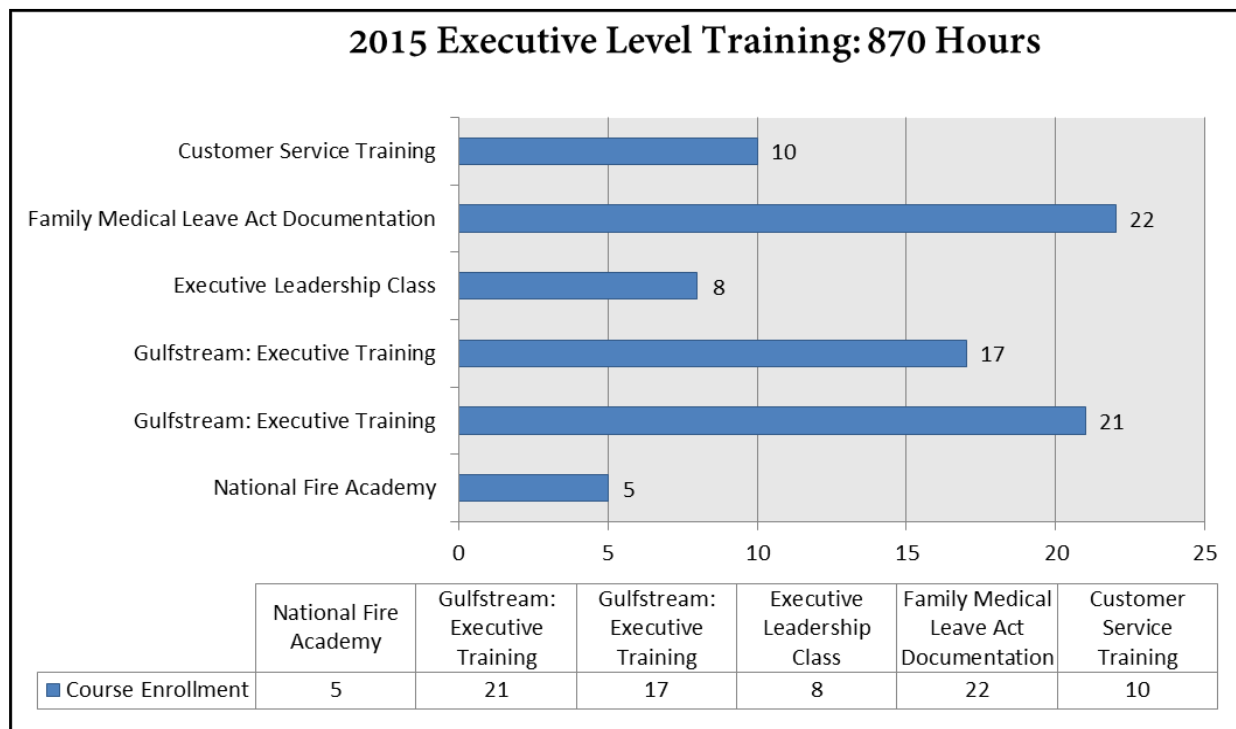


Total Staff Training Hours for Fire Marshals and Investigators= $24 \times 7 = 168$



LOGISTICS / TRAINING

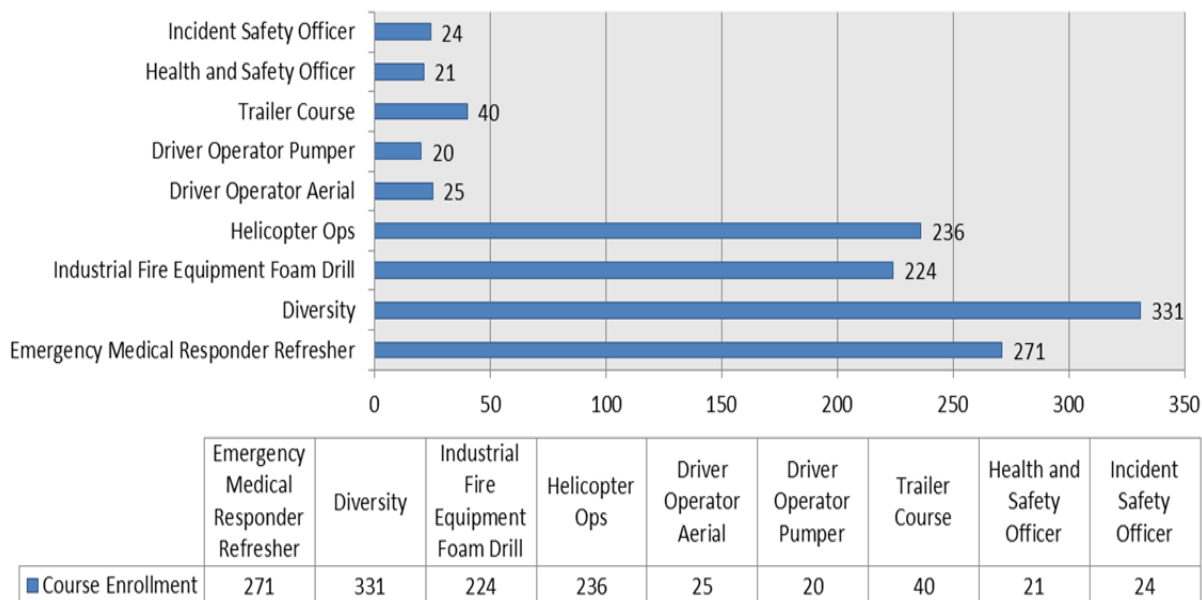
Training Course Participation for 2015



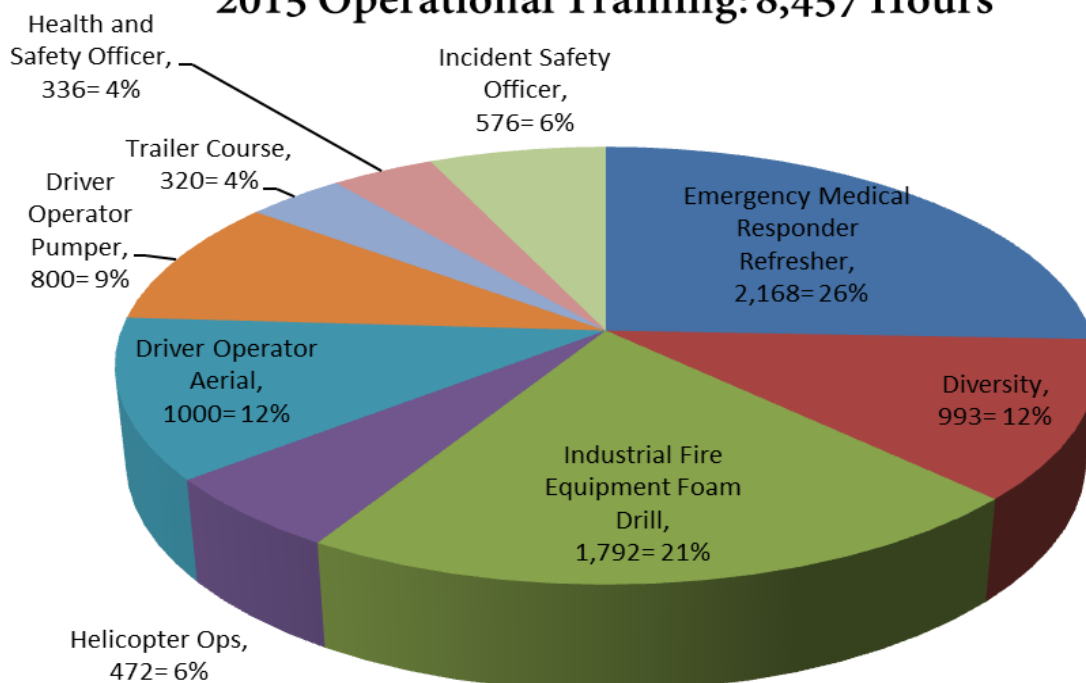


LOGISTICS / TRAINING

2015 Operational Training: 8,457 Hours



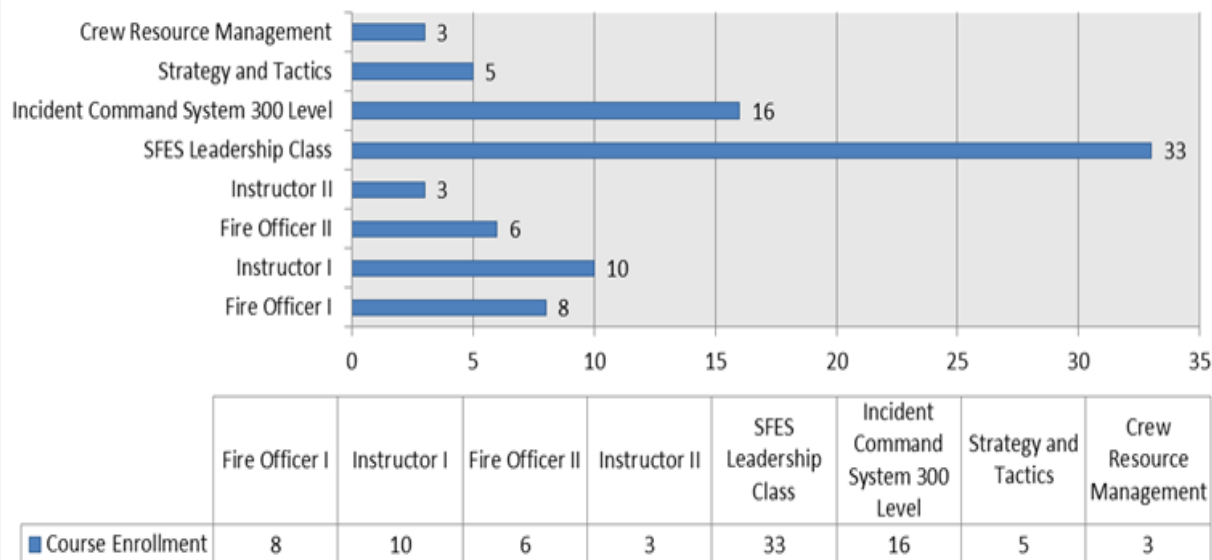
2015 Operational Training: 8,457 Hours



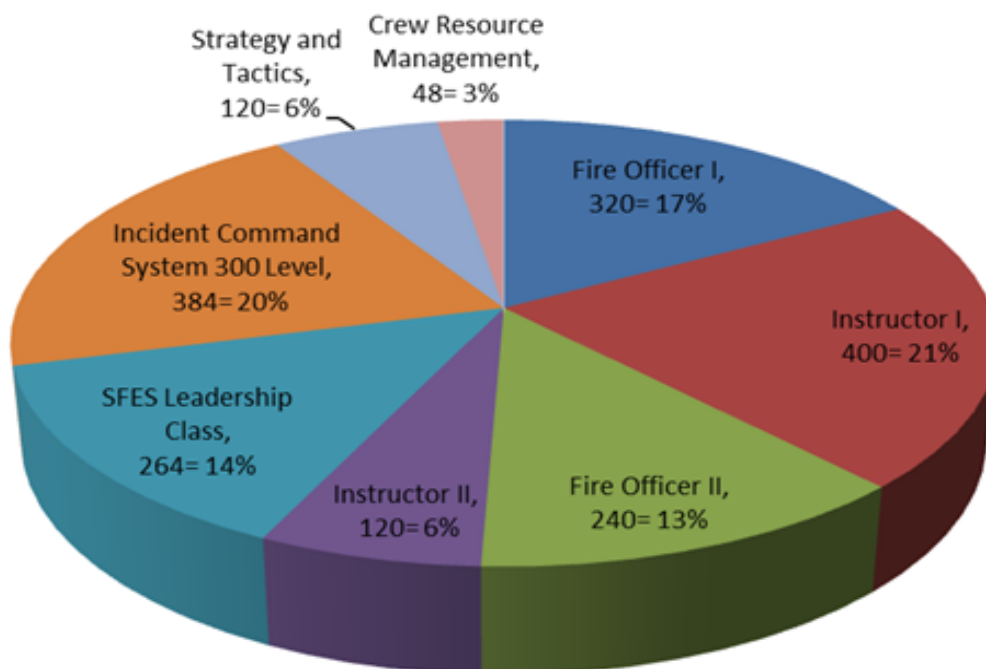


LOGISTICS / TRAINING

2015 Fire Officer Development Training: 1,896 Hours



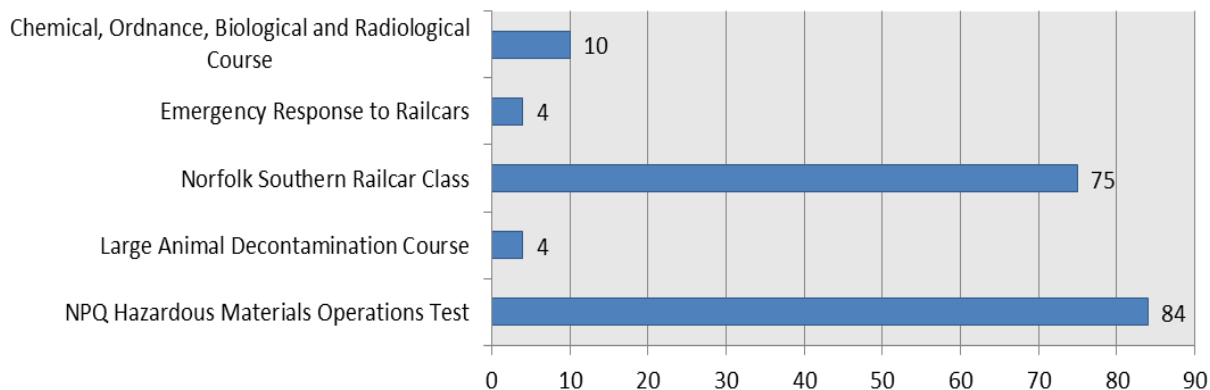
2015 Fire Officer Development Training: 1,896 Hours





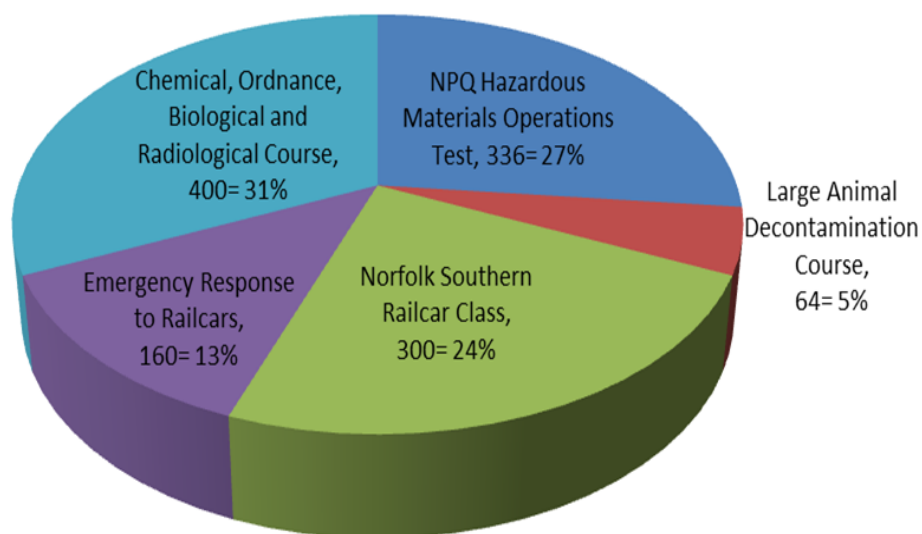
LOGISTICS / TRAINING

2015 Hazardous Materials Training: 1,260 Hours



| | NPQ Hazardous Materials Operations Test | Large Animal Decontamination Course | Norfolk Southern Railcar Class | Emergency Response to Railcars | Chemical, Ordnance, Biological and Radiological Course |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| ■ Course Enrollment | 84 | 4 | 75 | 4 | 10 |

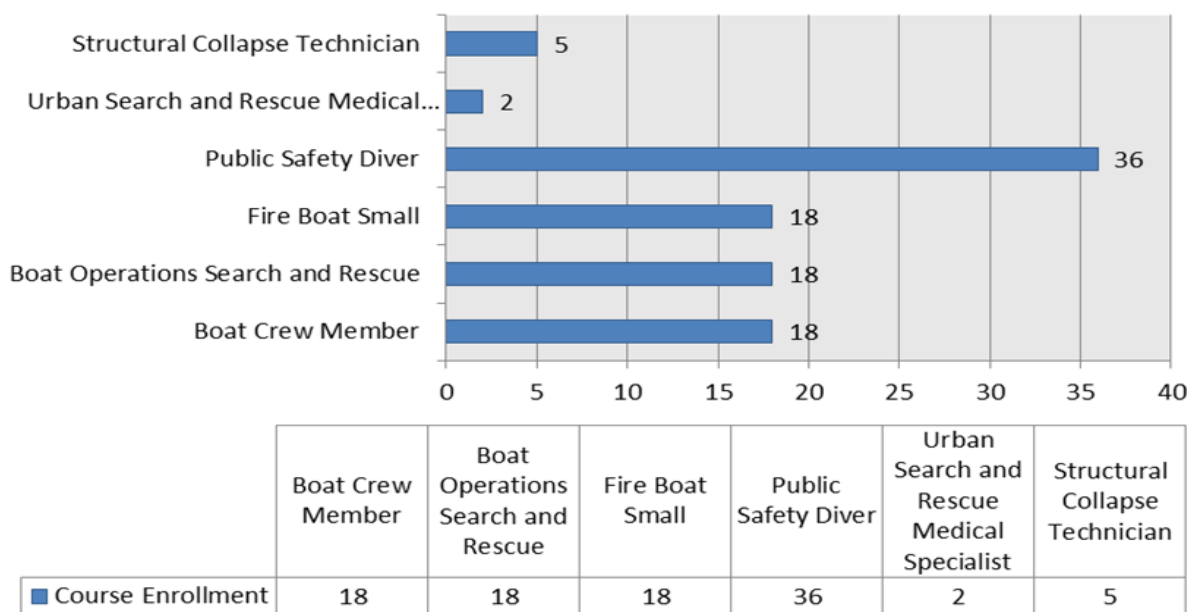
2015 Hazardous Materials Training: 1260 Hours



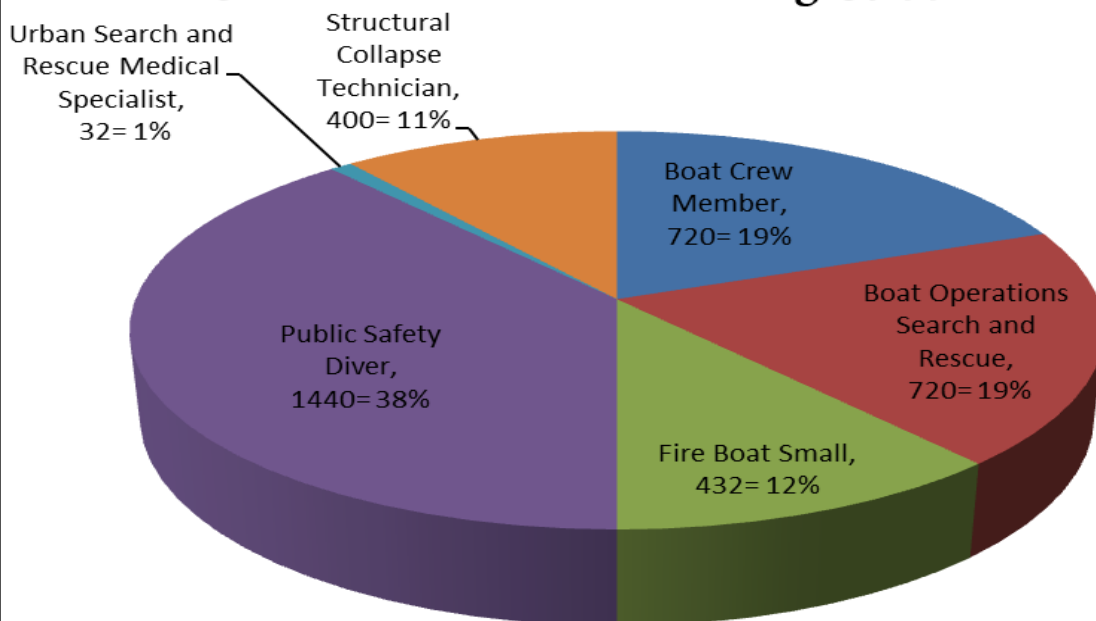


LOGISTICS / TRAINING

2015 Technical Rescue Training: 3,744 Hours



2015 Technical Rescue Training: 3744 Hours



Total Staff Receiving Training in 2015: 327 Personnel

Total Staff Training Hours for 2015: 88,920 Training Hours



LOGISTICS / TRAINING

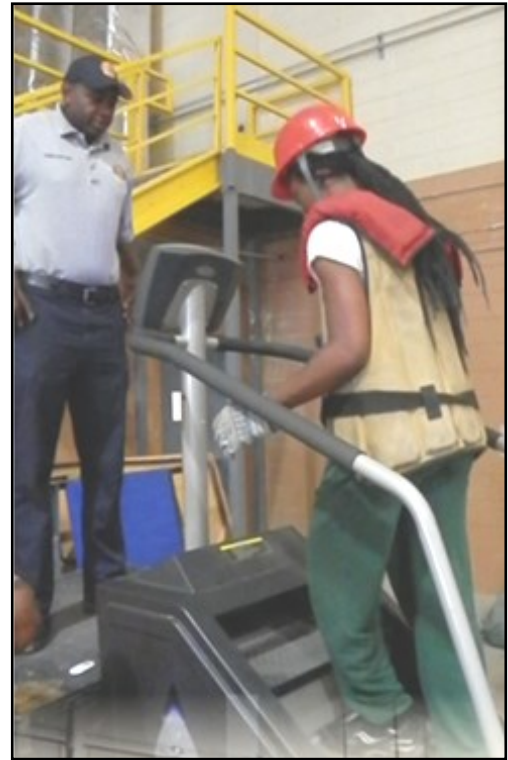
Recruitment

Recruitment Events

- 14 events
- 5hrs per event
- 2 recruiters per event
- 1082 contacts for 2105
- Recruitment Staff hours= $14 \times 5 \times 2 = 140$ Staff hours

Recruitment Contacts

- 270 candidates assigned to 18 recruiters
- 18 Recruiters Contact Interested Candidates twice a month (4 hours per month)
- Contact Hours= $18 \text{ Recruiters} \times 4 \text{ hours per month} \times 12 \text{ months} = 864$
- Written Testing 491 candidates $\times 2 \text{ hrs} \times 2 \text{ recruiters} = 1964$ Contact Hours
- CPAT Testing 214 candidates $\times 1 \text{ hrs} \times 15 \text{ CPAT Proctors} = 3310$ Staff Hours
- Interviews 115 candidates $\times 1 \text{ hrs} \times 10 \text{ Interview Panelists} = 1150$



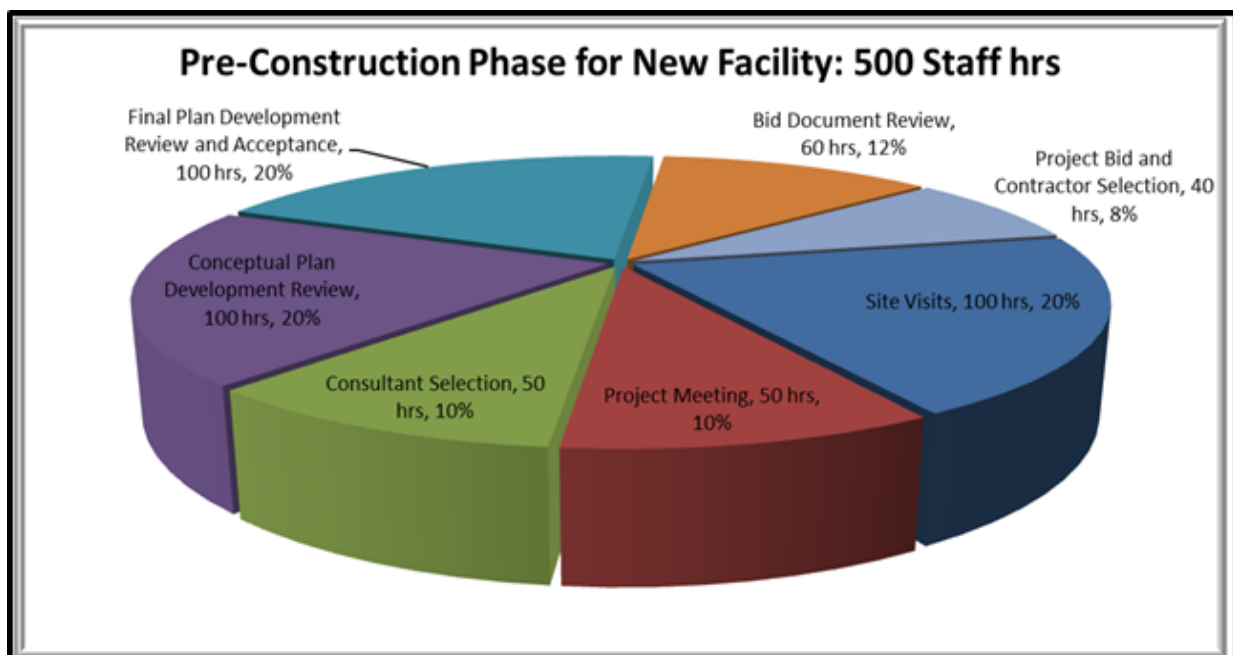
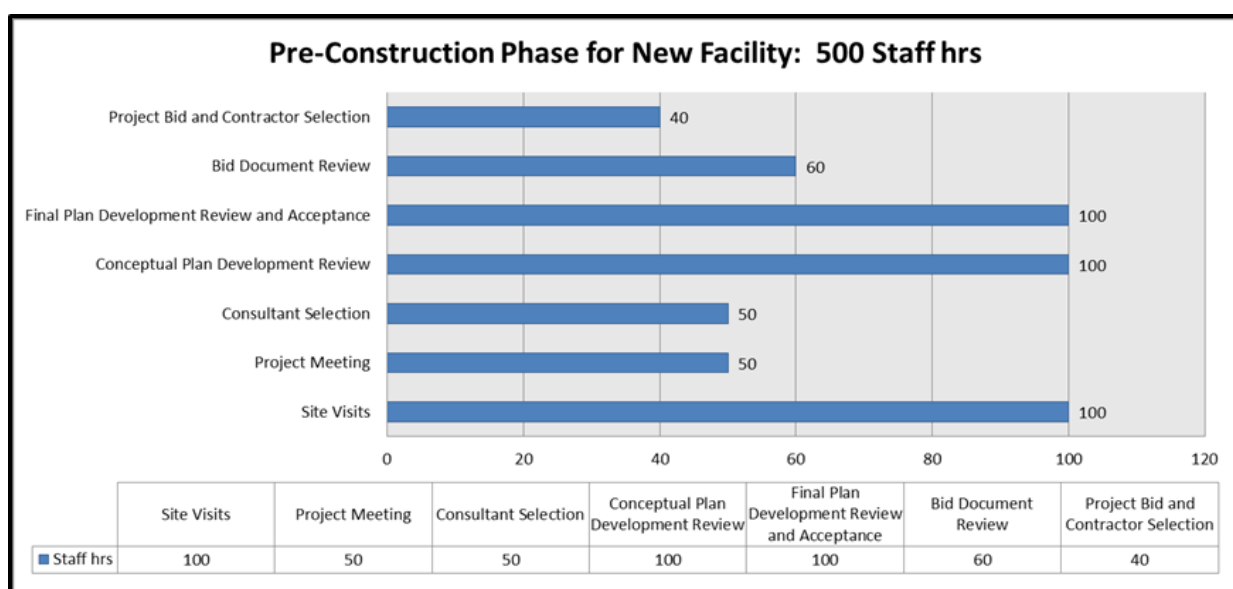
Total Recruit Contact Hours= 7,428



LOGISTICS / FACILITIES

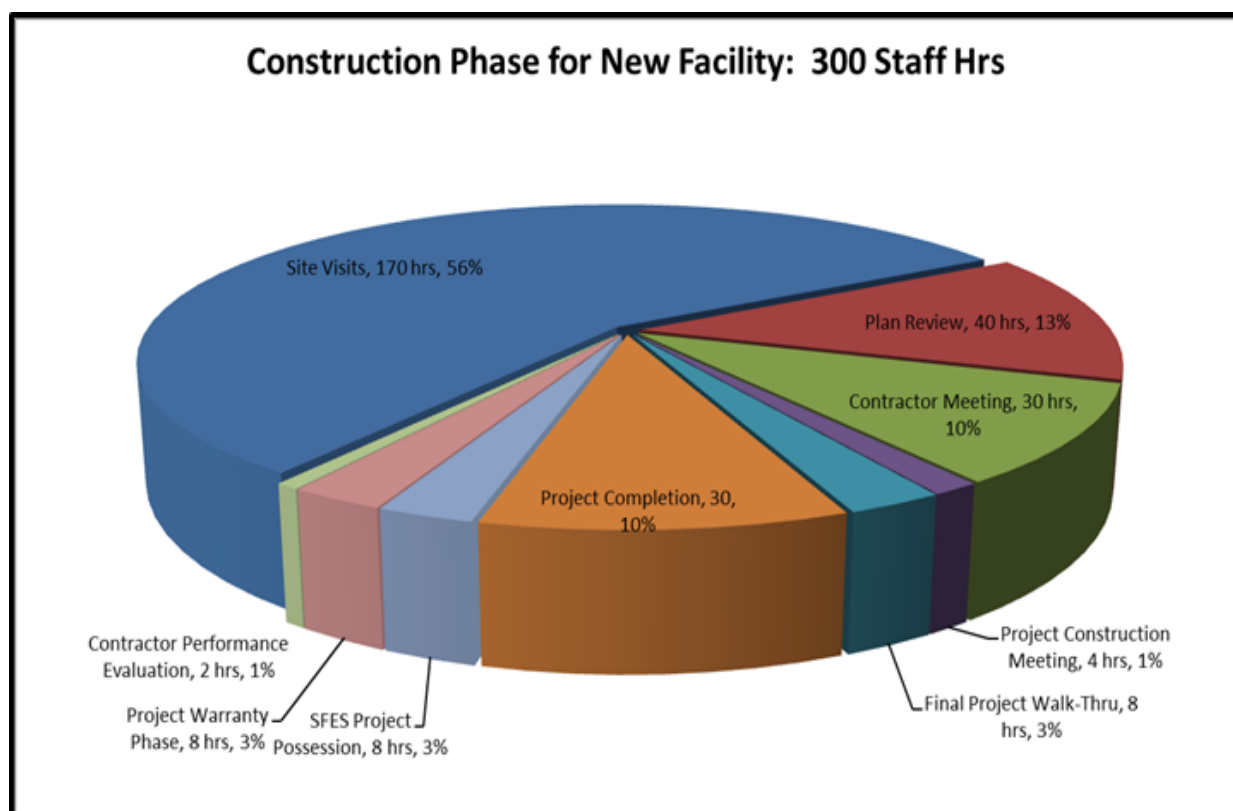
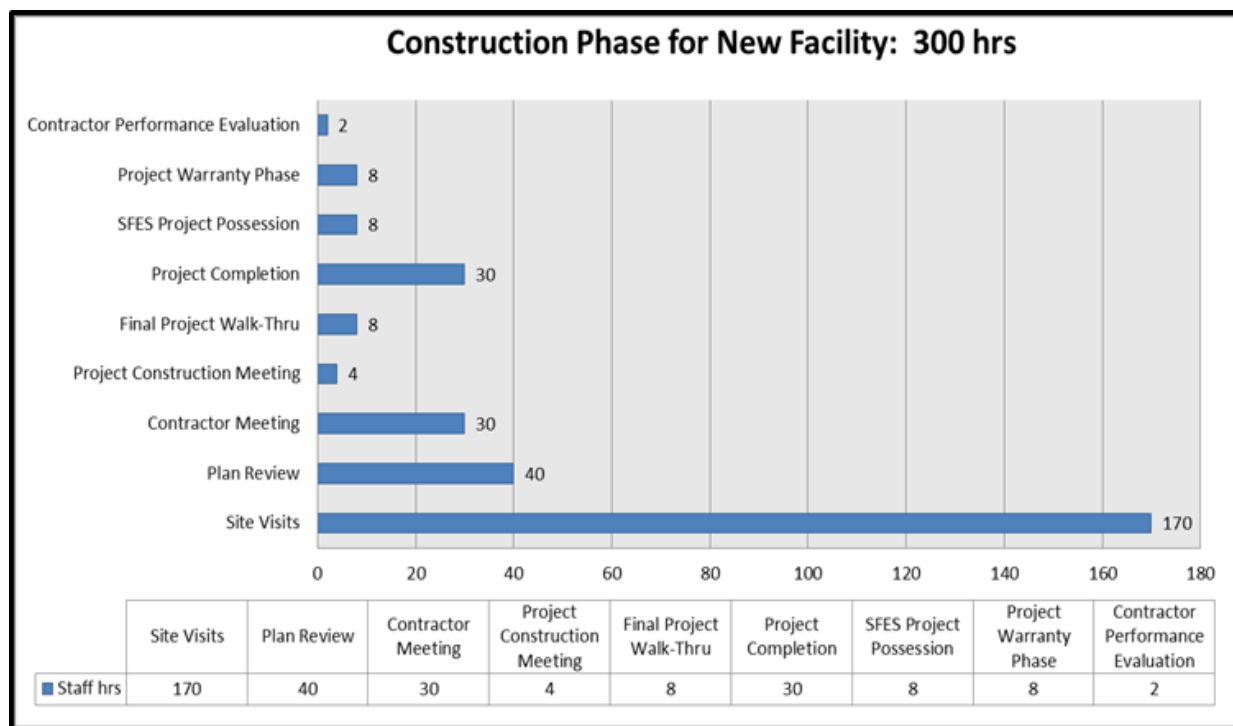
Building Construction

The construction coordinator works closely with the City's Development Services Division, providing direct Bureau involvement with pre-construction and construction phases of new projects. This includes plan development, bid process, review, and site visits. In 2015 this scope included over 800 staff hours for the Completion of Fire Station 12, and pre-construction for the SFES' Training Facility, and both the Sweetwater Fire Station, and the Hutchinson Island Public Safety Station.





LOGISTICS / FACILITIES



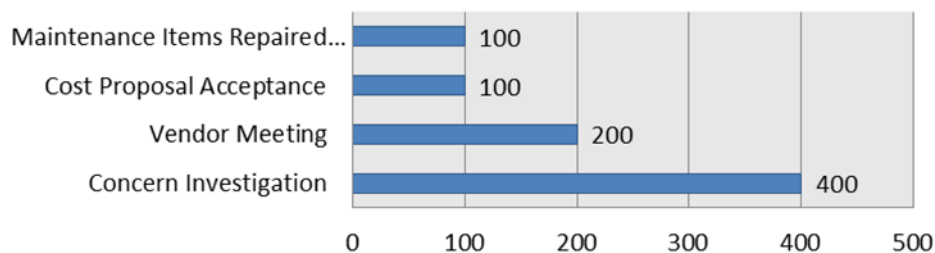


LOGISTICS / FACILITIES

Facility Maintenance

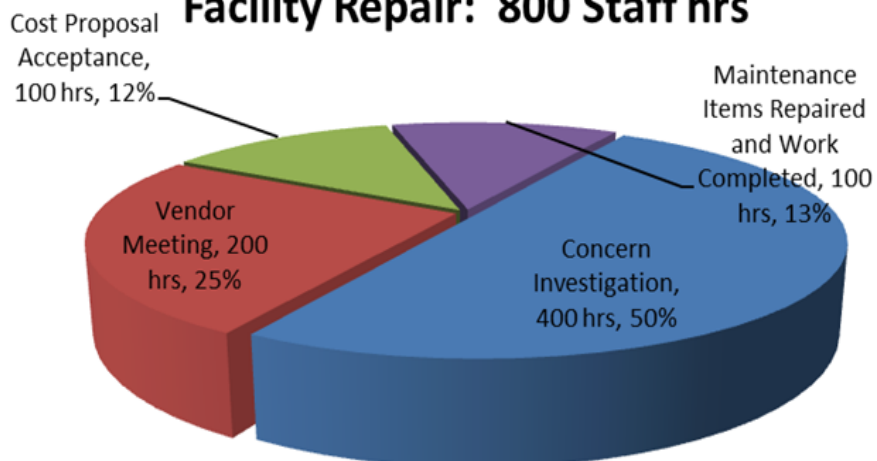
Savannah Fire maintains 17 facilities. The Construction Coordinator works directly with contractors to perform work outside the City's maintenance department's scope. In 2015, facility maintenance and improvements in the areas of inspection, coordination, site visits, and project completion involved over 1200 Staff hours.

Facility Repair: 800 Staff hrs



| | Concern Investigation | Vendor Meeting | Cost Proposal Acceptance | Maintenance Items Repaired and Work Completed |
|-----------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---|
| Staff hrs | 400 | 200 | 100 | 100 |

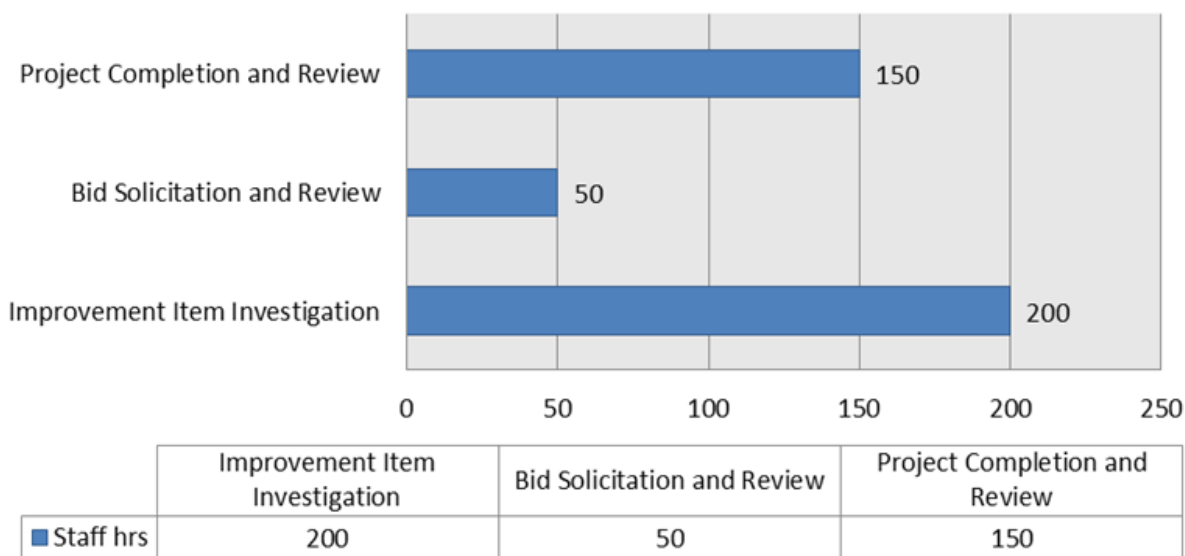
Facility Repair: 800 Staff hrs



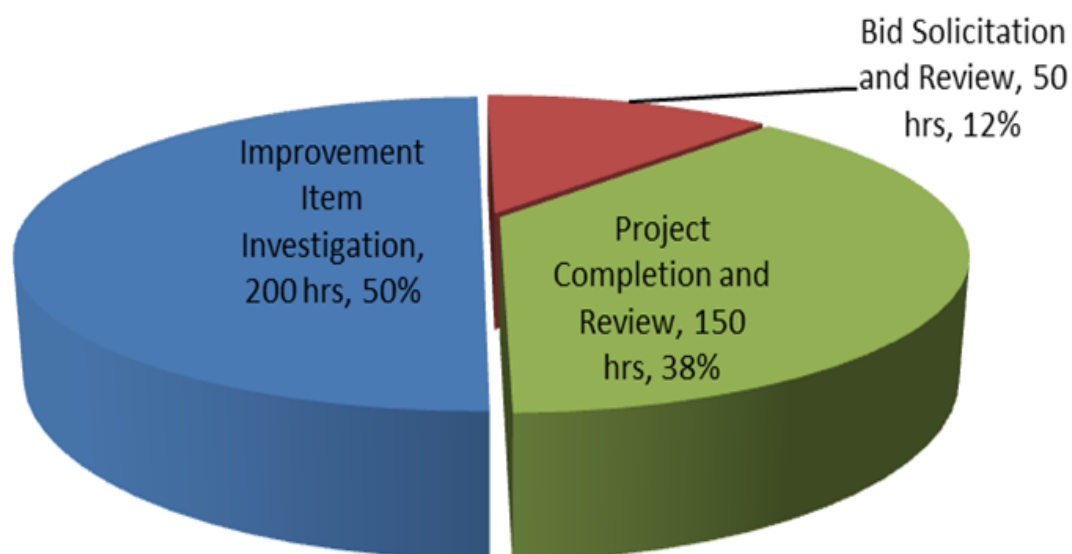


LOGISTICS / FACILTIES

Facility Improvements: 400 Staff hrs



Facility Improvements: 400 Staff hrs





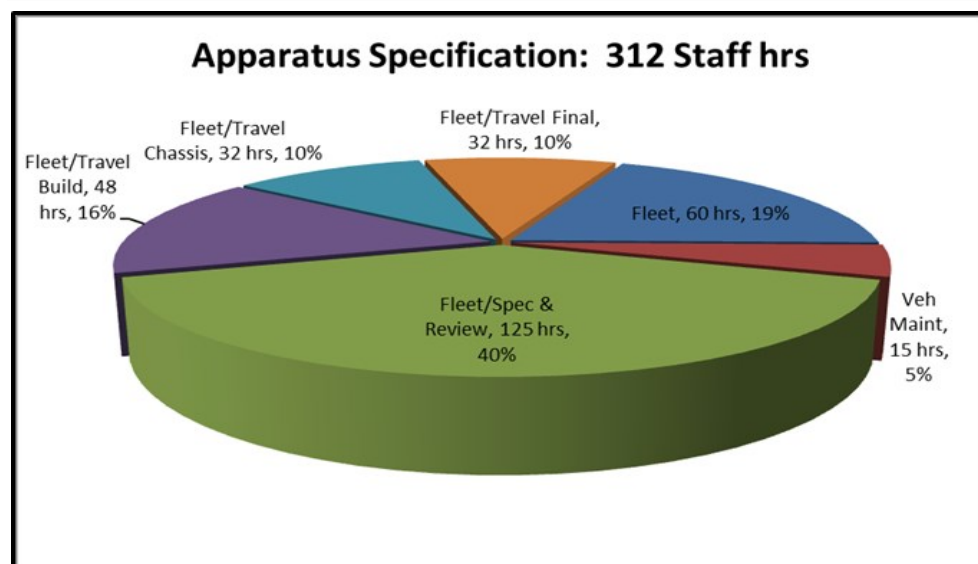
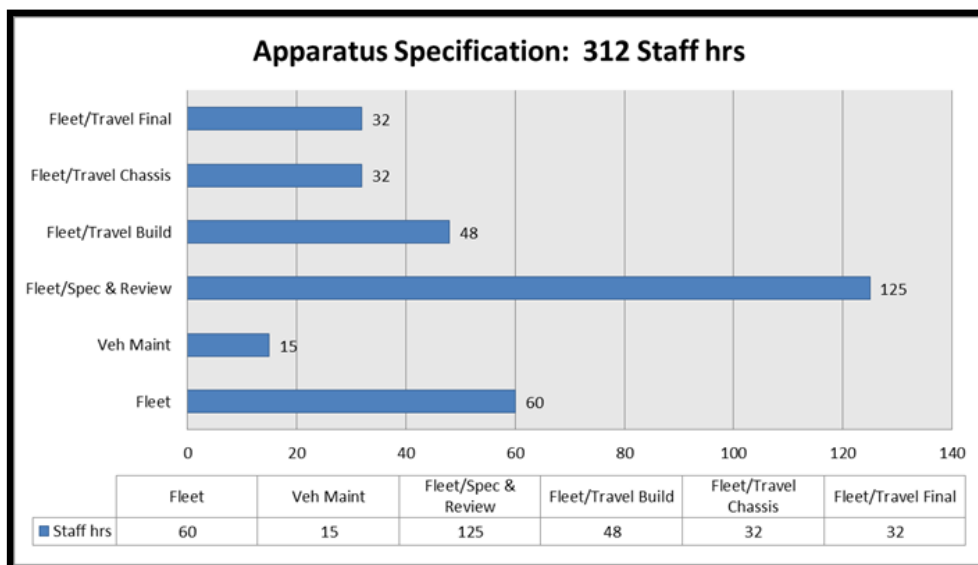
LOGISTICS / FLEET

Fleet Management

The Fleet Division works with the City's Vehicle Maintenance shop to maintain SFES's Fleet. This working relationship includes preventative maintenance, repairs, and refurbishment to our vehicles and apparatus. Moreover the fleet division oversees annual testing of apparatus pumps, ladders, and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus program.

Apparatus Specifications

In 2015 the SFES Fleet division, completed specifications for 5 new apparatus. Each one of these new vehicles will replace old units within the Fleet. These new apparatus will include the latest technology, and new national vehicle safety standards as well as the newest tools and equipment available to the Fire Service.

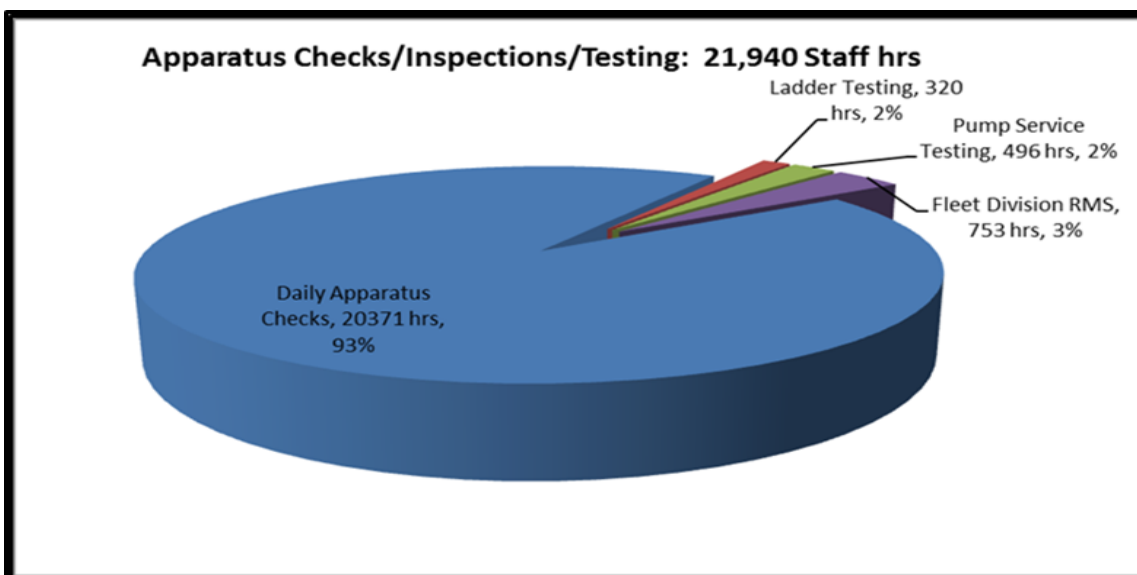
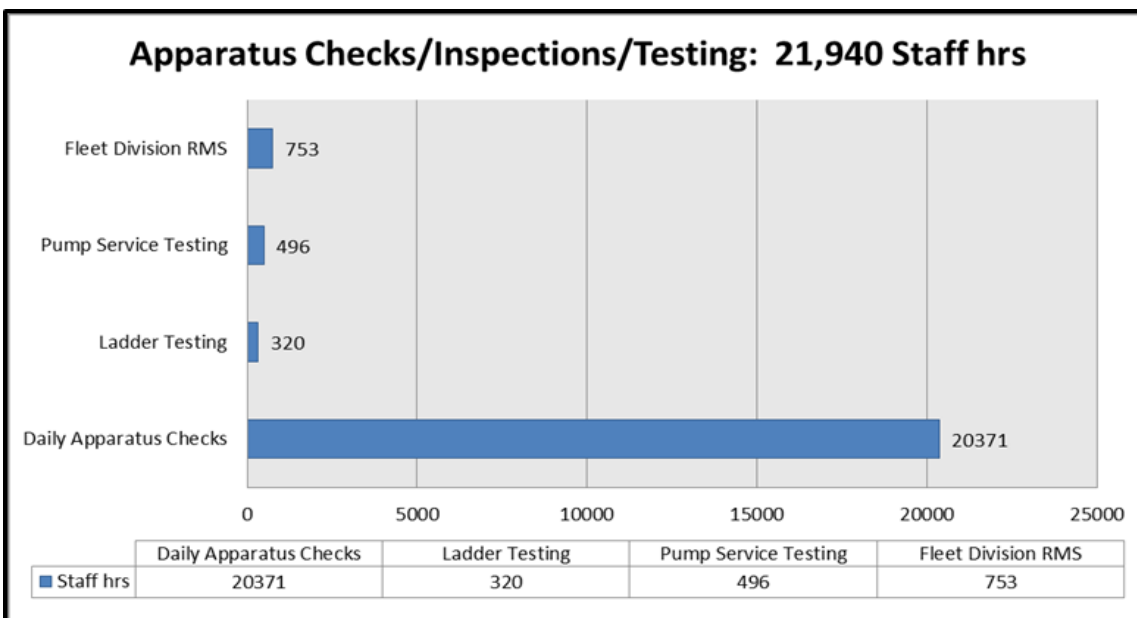




LOGISTICS / FLEET

Apparatus Checks, Inspections, and Testing

SFES utilizes a Records Management System (RMS) to record activities required to maintain accountability and readiness for vehicles, equipment, and personnel. In 2015 vehicle maintenance completed 1,141 vehicle repairs, with SFES personnel committing 21,940 Staff hours to complete daily apparatus checks, inventory and equipment inspections, and Fire pump and ladder testing to maintain readiness.

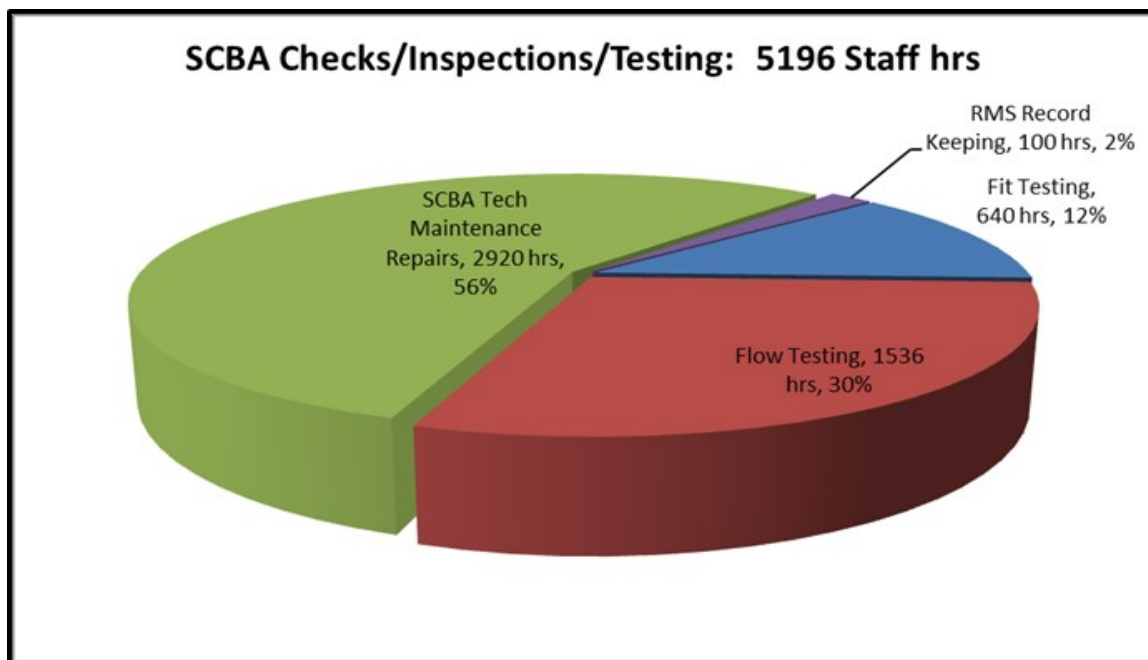
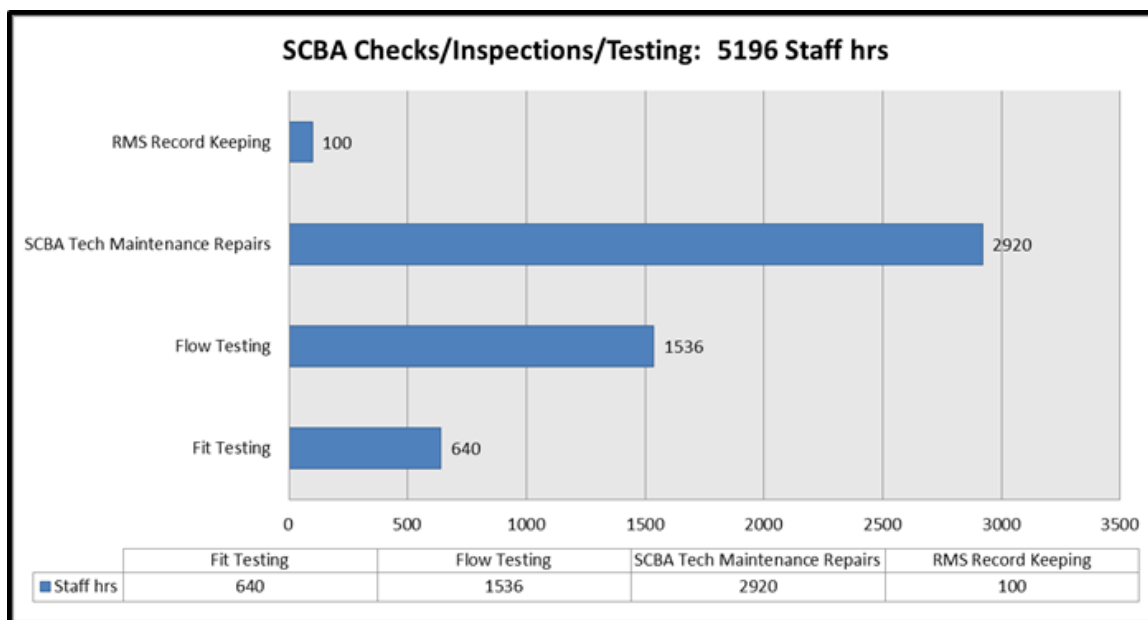




LOGISTICS / SCBA

Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Program

This program supports our efforts to maintain safe air while working in hostile working environments. Currently there are 12 trained certified SCBA technicians to service and repair this critical lifesaving equipment. In 2015 SCBA personnel committed 6,114 staff hours to maintain the SCBAs including daily checks, inventory and equipment inspections, and required annual fitting and flow testing.

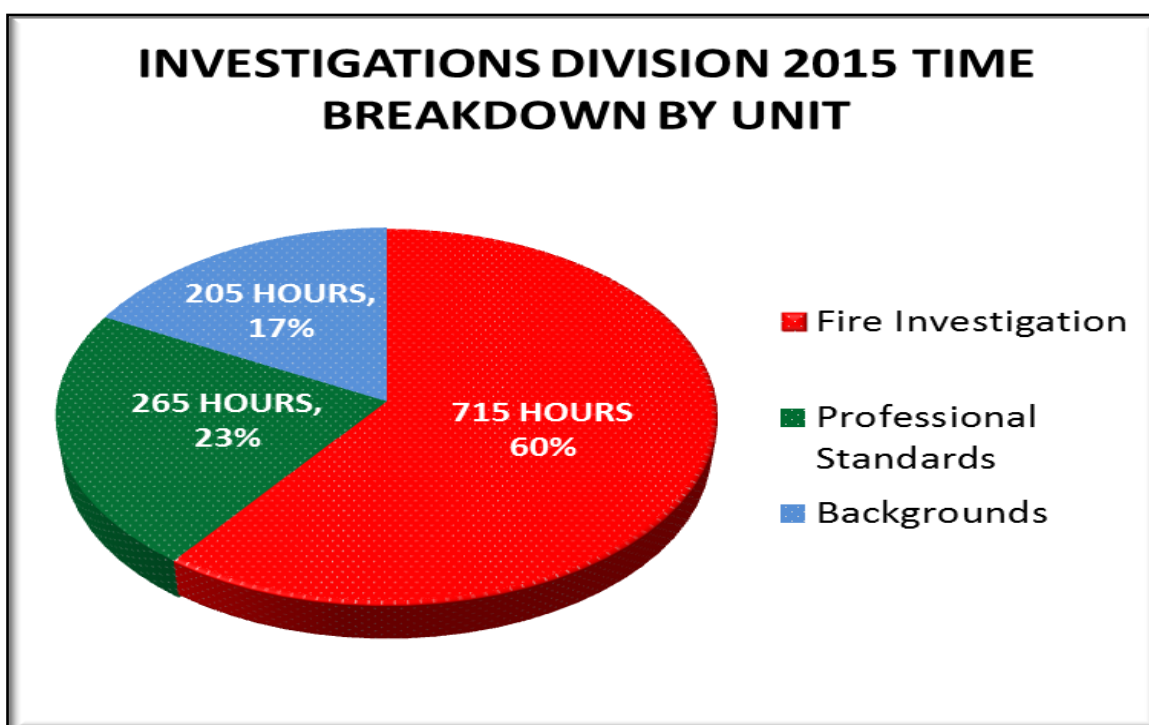
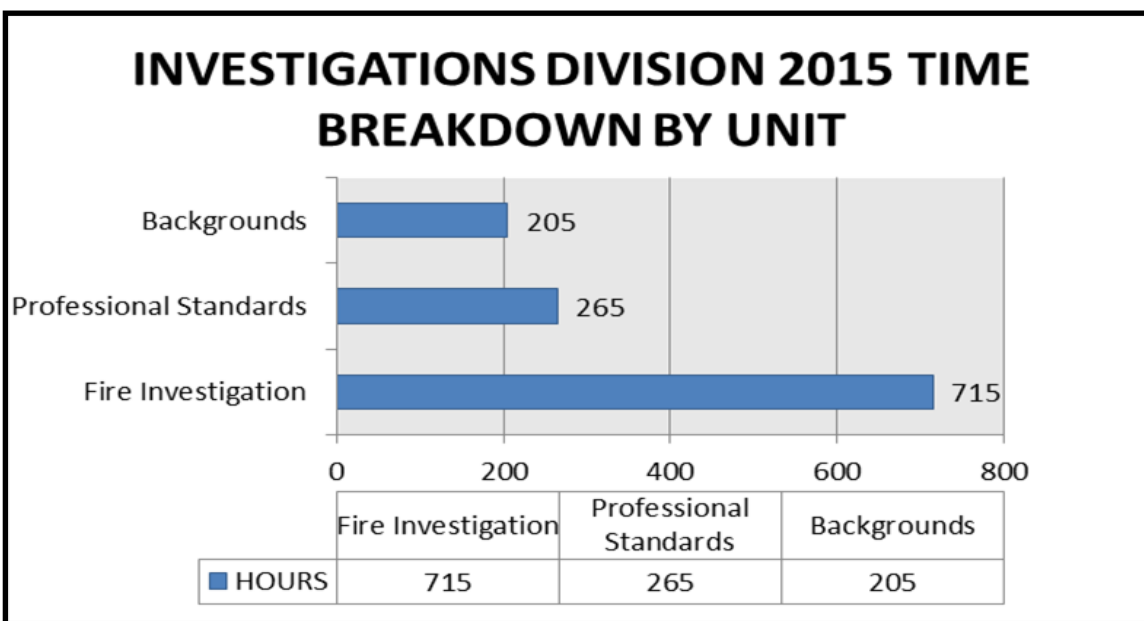




LOGISTICS / FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Investigations Division

The Savannah Fire & Emergency Services Investigations Division consists of three functions operating under the investigations division umbrella. These functions are Fire Investigation, Professional Standards, and Background Investigations. The Investigations Division is also a recognized law enforcement agency by Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST). The investigations division operates and maintains a Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) terminal.





LOGISTICS / FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

The Savannah Fire & Emergency Services Fire Investigations Unit conducts investigations into the cause and origin of fires that occur within the incorporated boundaries of the city. The Fire Investigations Unit is responsible for making a determination if a fire was the result of an accident, a natural occurrence, whether the cause is undetermined or if the fire was incendiary and therefore a criminal investigation. In the event a criminal investigation is opened the Fire Investigations Unit becomes the primary law enforcement agency responsible for follow-up on the incident.



Undetermined fire within a vacant residence



Incendiary fire at a vehicle repair yard



Undetermined fire within the garage of residence



Accidental fire from electrical equipment failure



Incendiary fire of vehicle in front of residence

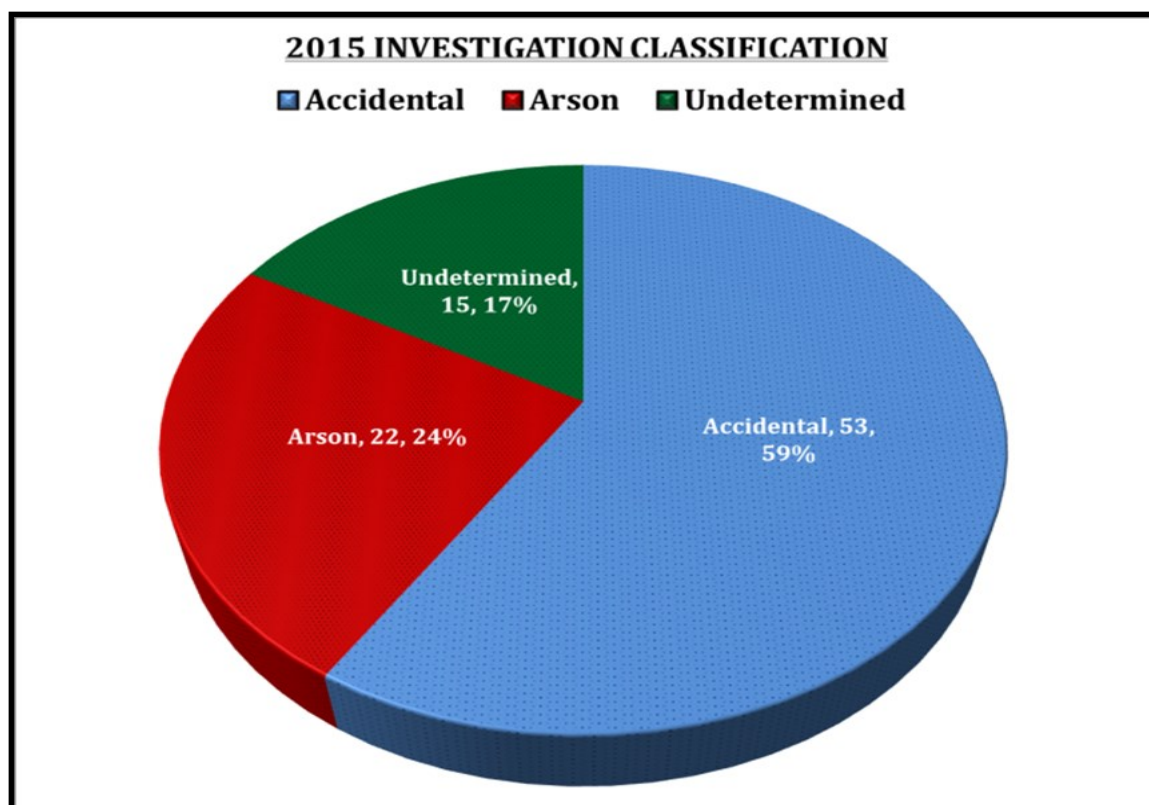
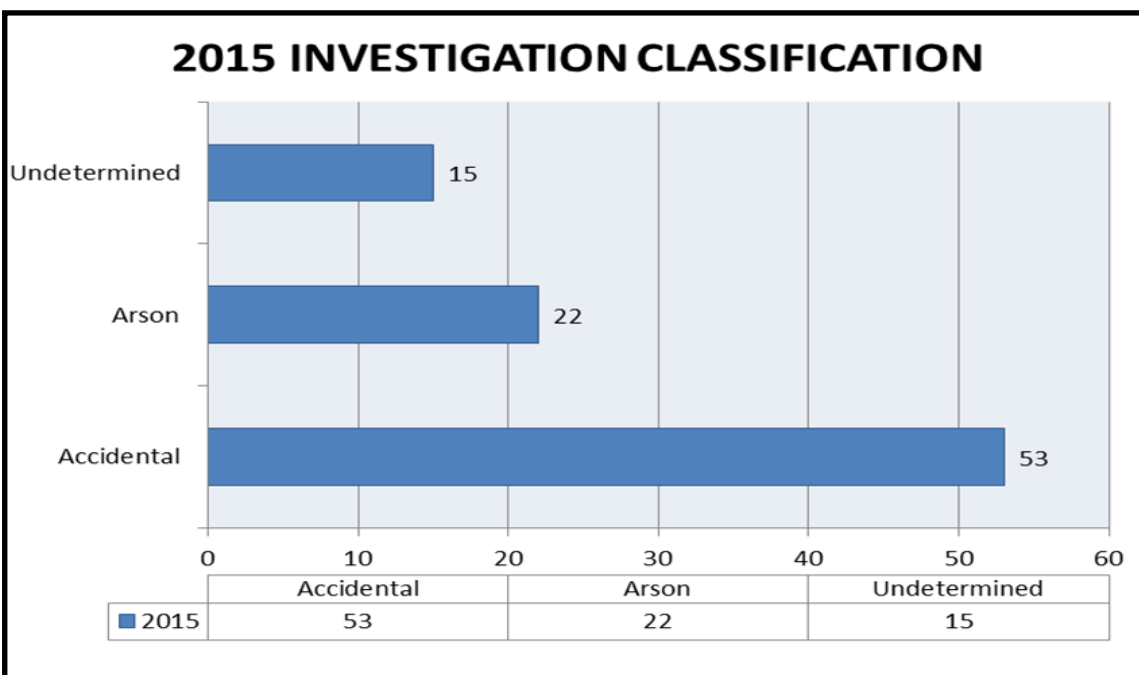


Accidental fire from electrical equipment failure in the utility room



LOGISTICS / FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

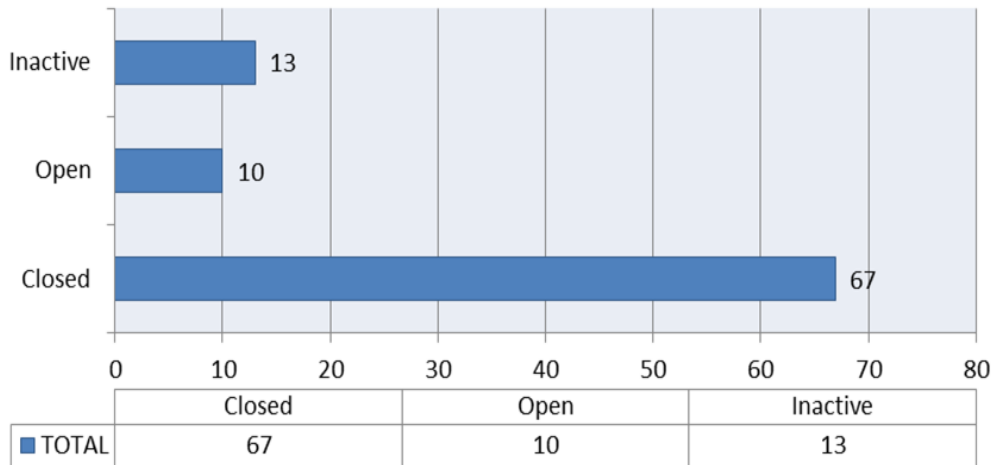
In Calendar Year 2015 the Investigations Division recorded 90 cases for follow-up. The amount of time each investigator is averaging as part of case follow-up is 7.9 hours per case.



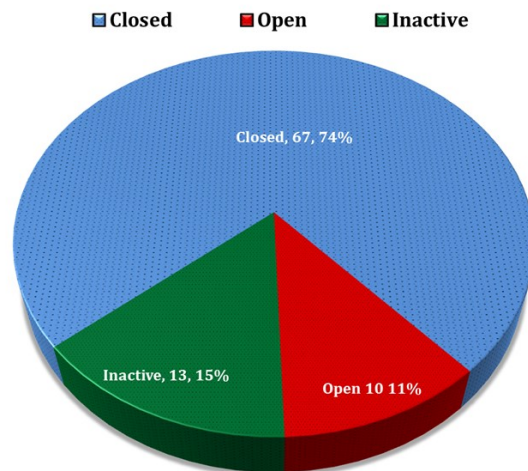


LOGISTICS / FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

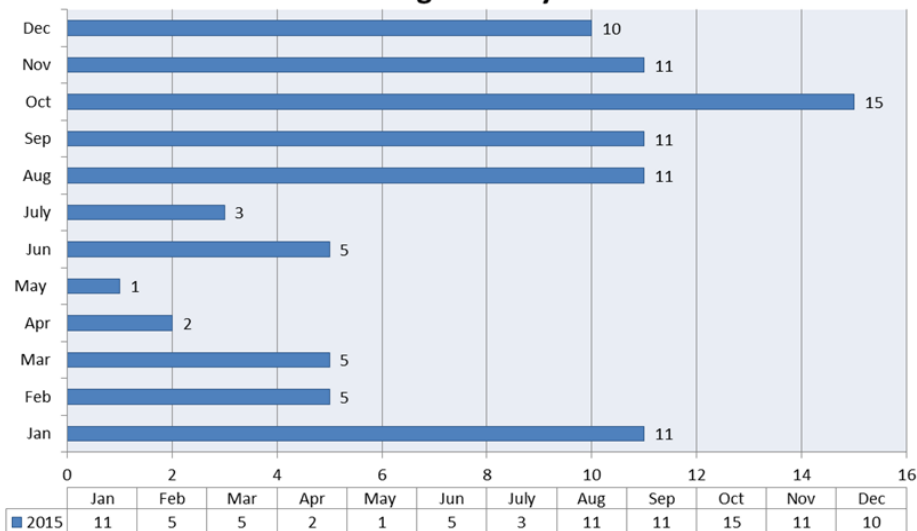
2015 STATUS OF CASES



2015 STATUS OF CASES



Fire Investigations By Month



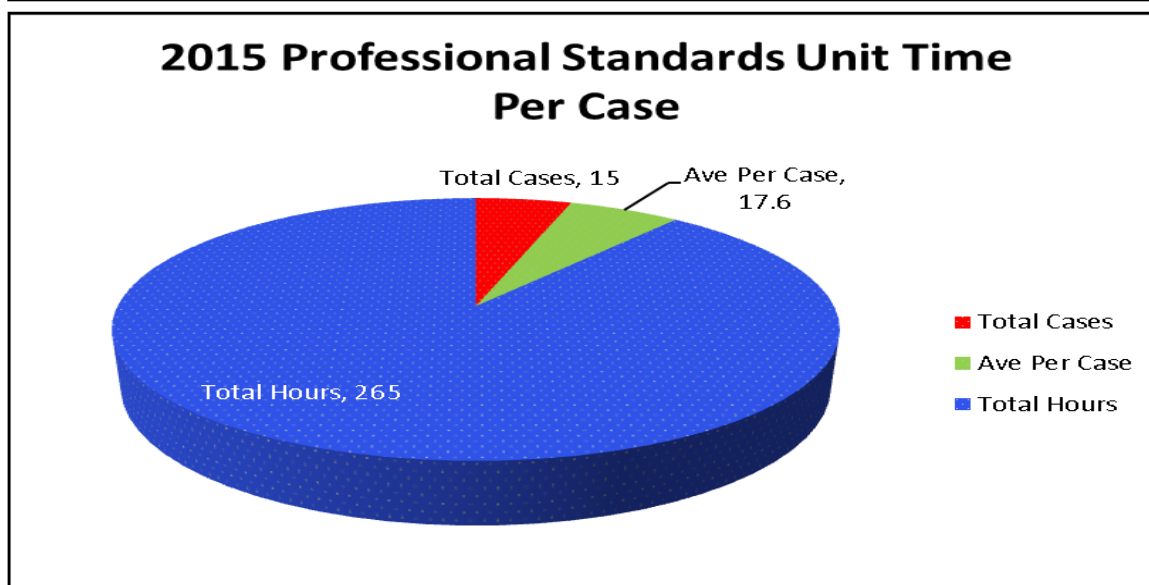
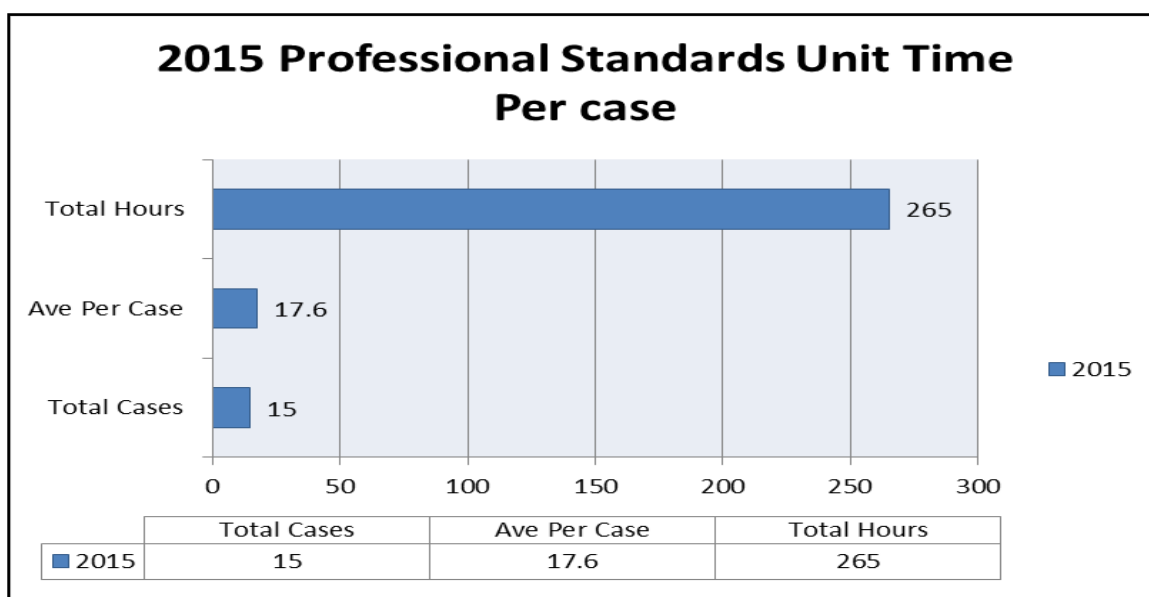


LOGISTICS / FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Professional Standards

The Savannah Fire & Emergency Services Professional Standards Unit investigates cases of an administrative nature. These cases range from policy violation to claims of alleged violations of Federal Statutes such as Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Professional Standards Unit conducts an investigations at the direction of the Fire Chief and reports all findings directly to the Fire Chief.

In 2015 The Professional Standards Unit opened 15 cases. 265 hours were spent in 2015 investigating these cases. The average time per case was 17.6 hours. All 15 cases were closed by the Fire Chiefs Office in 2015. Professional Standards accounts for 23% of the work load assigned to the Investigations Division.



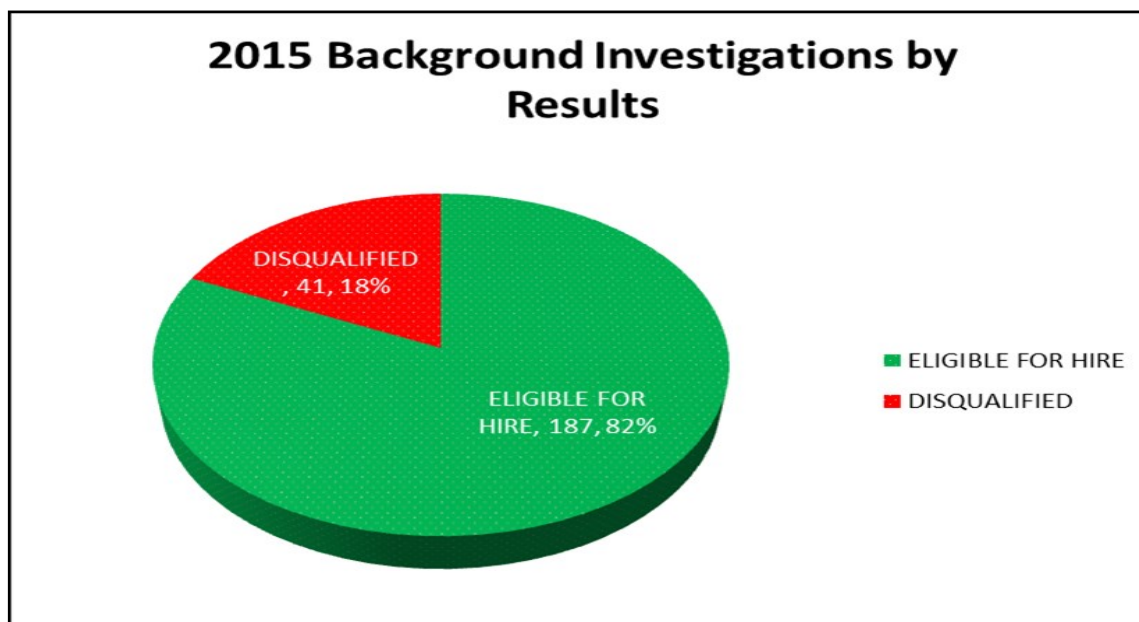
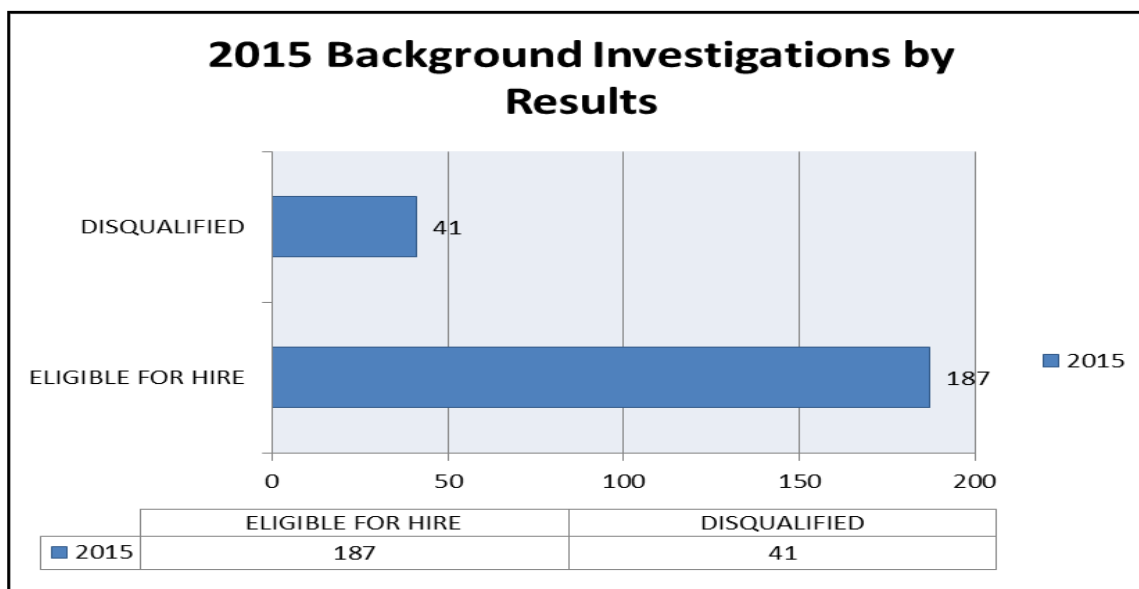


LOGISTICS / FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Background Investigations

The Savannah Fire & Emergency Services Background Investigations Unit conducts background Investigations on all applicants that apply to work for the bureau. These investigations include a criminal history check, a driver's history check, previous employment verification, and a thorough investigation of the applicant's background (*i.e. social media, personal and professional references*).

In 2015 The Background Investigation Unit conducted 228 background investigations. Background investigations accounted for 17% of the workload assigned to the Investigations Division. As a result of these investigations the Background Unit was able to clear 187 applicants for employment eligibility.

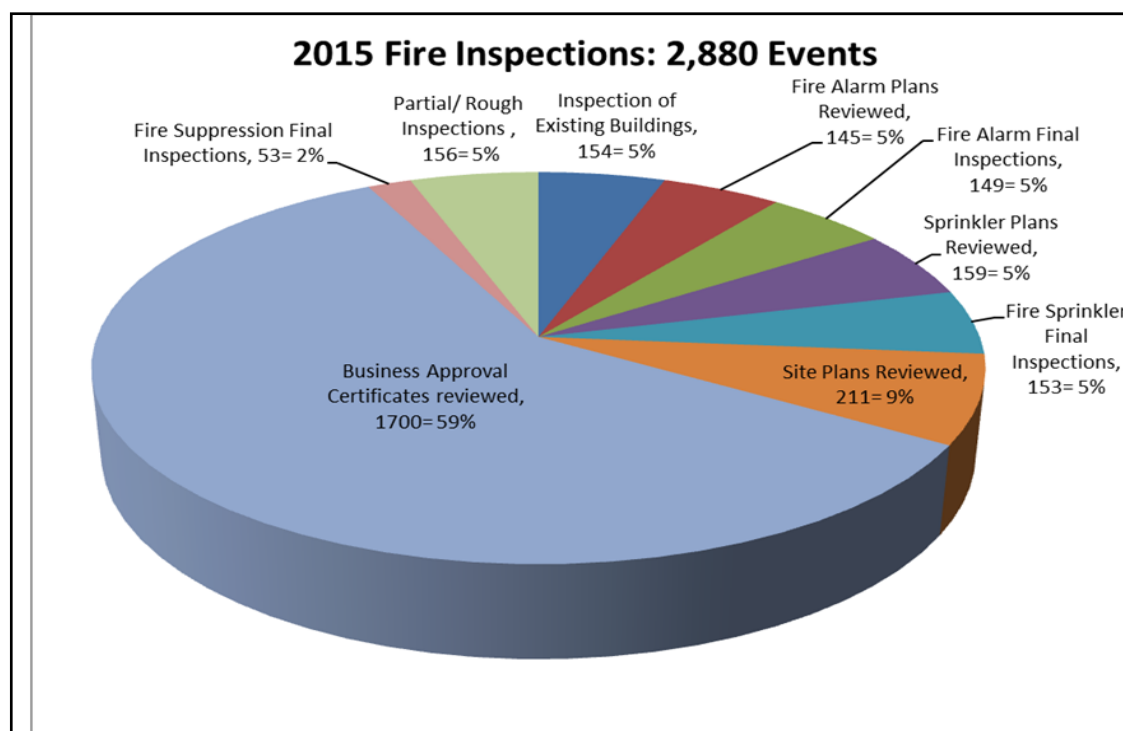
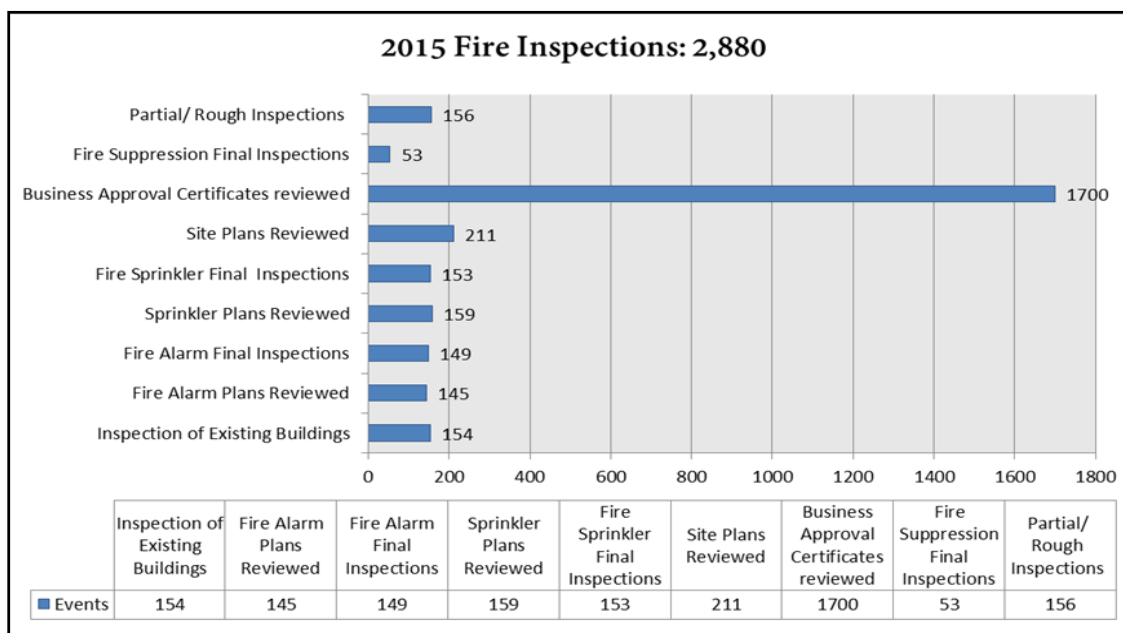




LOGISTICS / FIRE MARSHAL

Fire Inspections

Fire Marshal's Office represents the fire prevention and code enforcement activities of the City of Savannah. Its six certified full time code enforcement personnel perform: fire prevention inspections in commercial buildings, reviews plans and conducts inspections. In addition, the office also provides oversight in the installation and removal of underground flammable storage tanks, public fireworks displays, and the monitoring of overcrowding in the City's bars and restaurants.

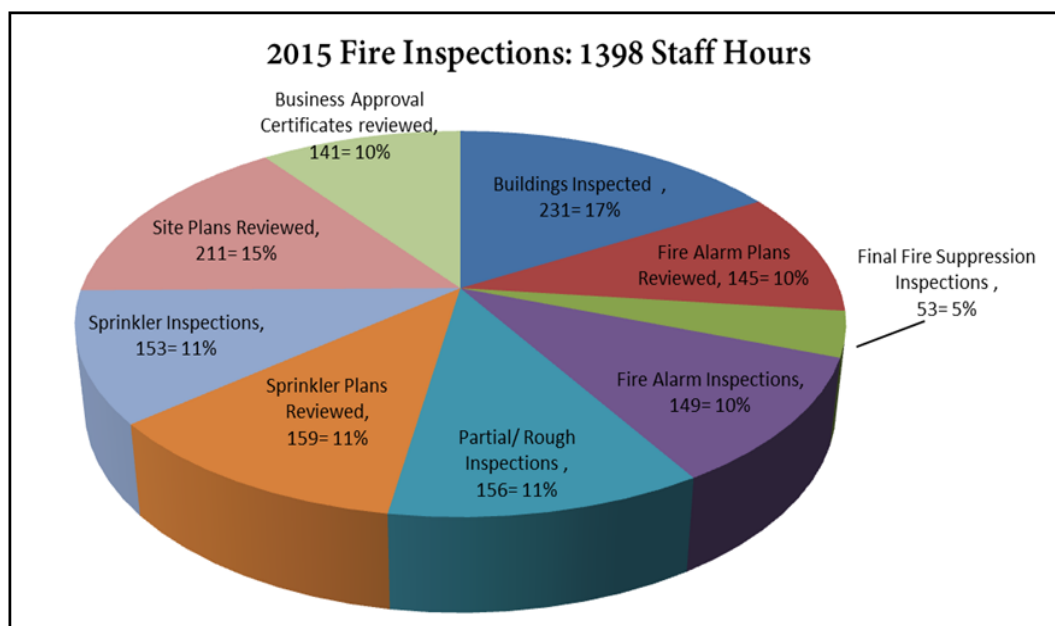
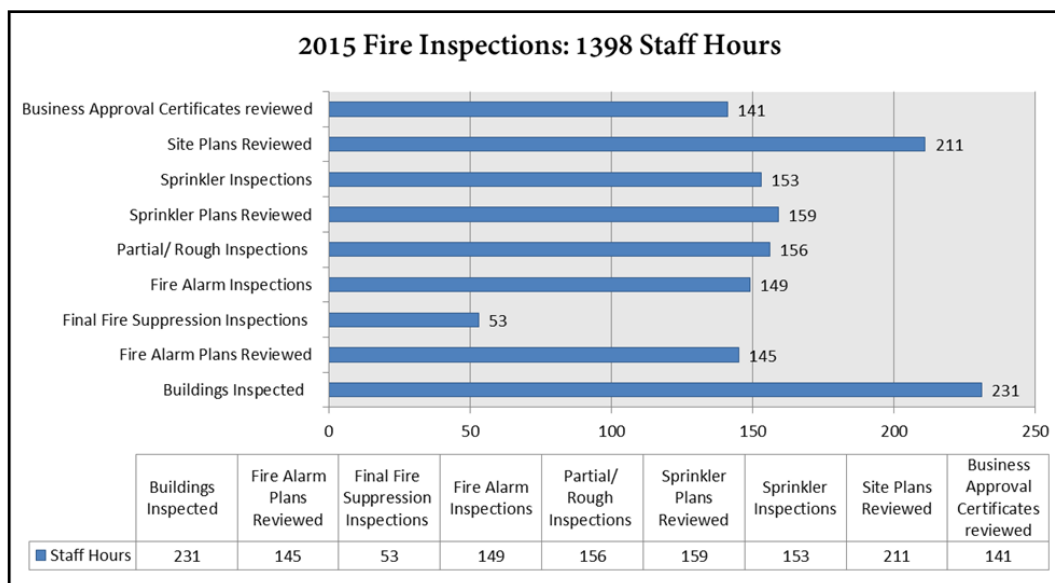




LOGISTICS / FIRE MARSHAL

2015 Staff Hours: 1189 Hours

- 154 Buildings Inspected x 1.5 hours (per Building Inspection) = 231 Hours
- 145 Fire Alarm Plans Reviewed x 1 hour (per Plan Review) = 145 Hours
- 53 Final Fire Suppression Inspections x 1 hour (per Inspection) = 53 Hours
- 149 Fire Alarm Inspections x 1 hour (per Fire Alarm Inspection) = 149 Hours
- 156 Partial/ Rough Inspections x 1 hour (per inspection) = 156
- 159 Sprinkler Plans Reviewed x 1 hour (per Plan Review) = 159 Hours
- 153 Sprinkler Inspections/1.0 hour (per Inspection) = 153 Hours
- 211 Site Plans Reviewed/1.0 hour (per Site Plan Review) = 211 Hours
- 1700 Business Approval Certificates reviewed x 5 minutes (each) 141 Hours



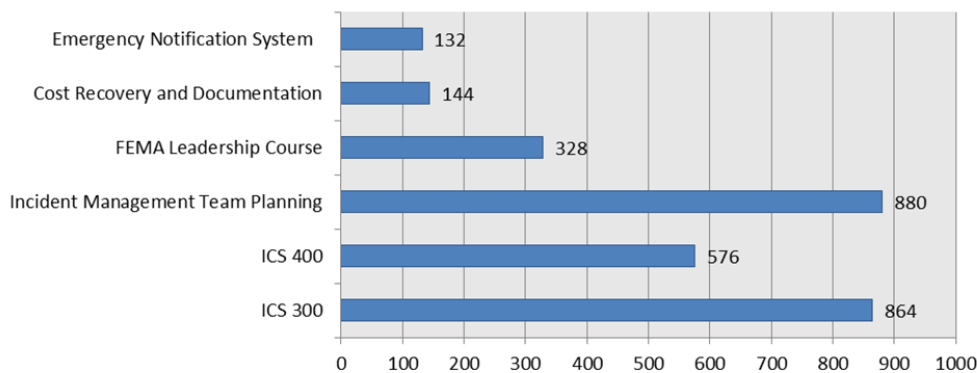


EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

City Wide Emergency Management

Savannah's Emergency Management Program is a division of the Fire & Emergency Services Bureau. The goal of the program is to coordinate disaster mitigation, preparedness, prevention, response and recovery plans and activities for the City.

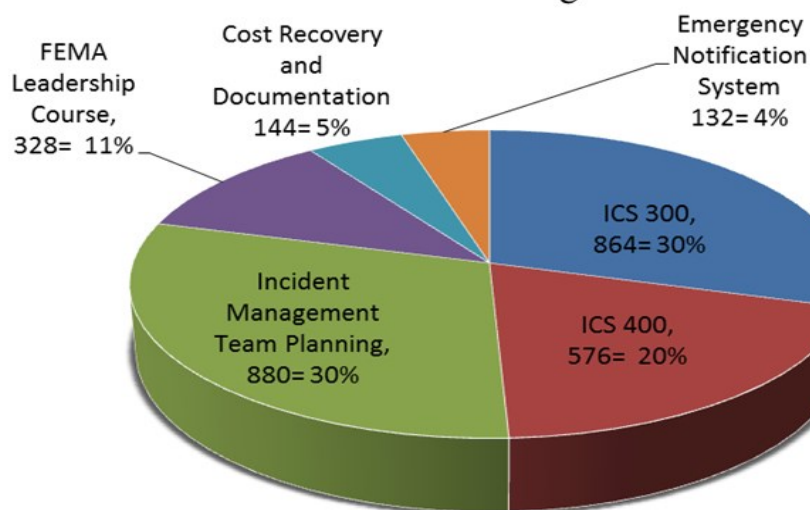
Emergency Management Training Hours: 2,924 **



| | ICS 300 | ICS 400 | Incident Management Team Planning | FEMA Leadership Course | Cost Recovery and Documentation | Emergency Notification System |
|-------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hours | 864 | 576 | 880 | 328 | 144 | 132 |



2015 Emergency Management and Incident Command Training Hours



**** 180 City Personnel Trained in Emergency Management and Incident Command System courses****



PUBLIC EDUCATION / INFORMATION

Public Information/Public Fire Safety Education

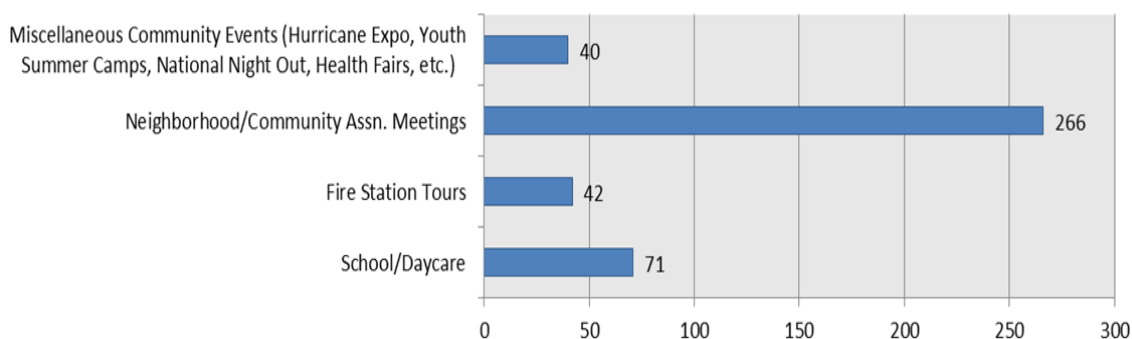
The Savannah Fire Public Information position serves a dual role in the department's overall fire protection plan: Public/Media Information and Public Fire Safety Education. The two functions are indivisible in the modern fire service.





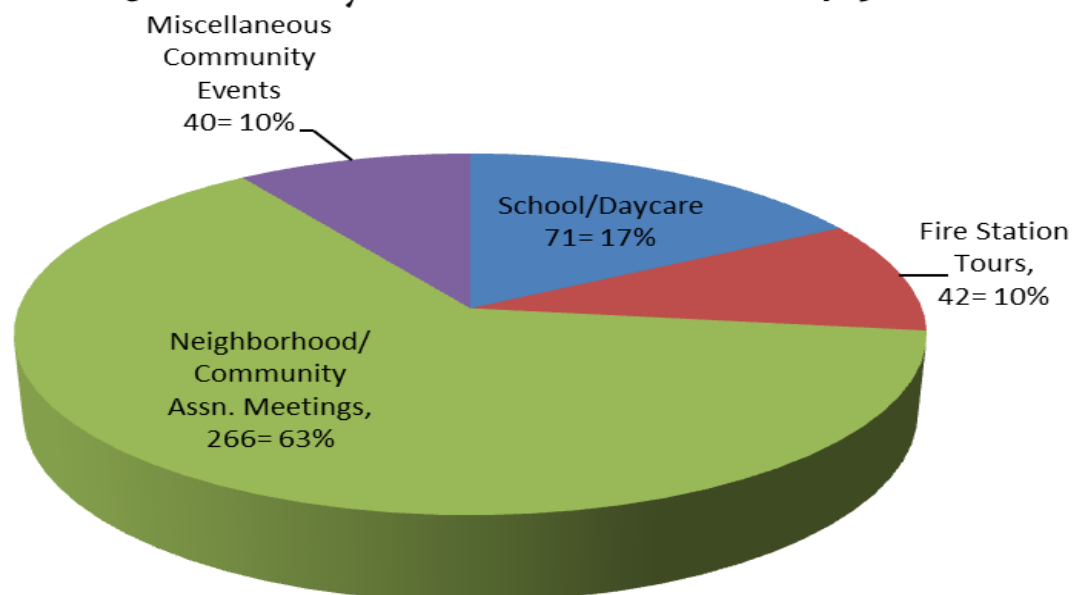
PUBLIC EDUCATION / INFORMATION

2015 Public Fire Safety Education Activities: 419 Events



| | School/Daycare | Fire Station Tours | Neighborhood/Community Assn. Meetings | Miscellaneous Community Events (Hurricane Expo, Youth Summer Camps, National Night Out, Health Fairs, etc.) |
|----------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| ■ Events | 71 | 42 | 266 | 40 |

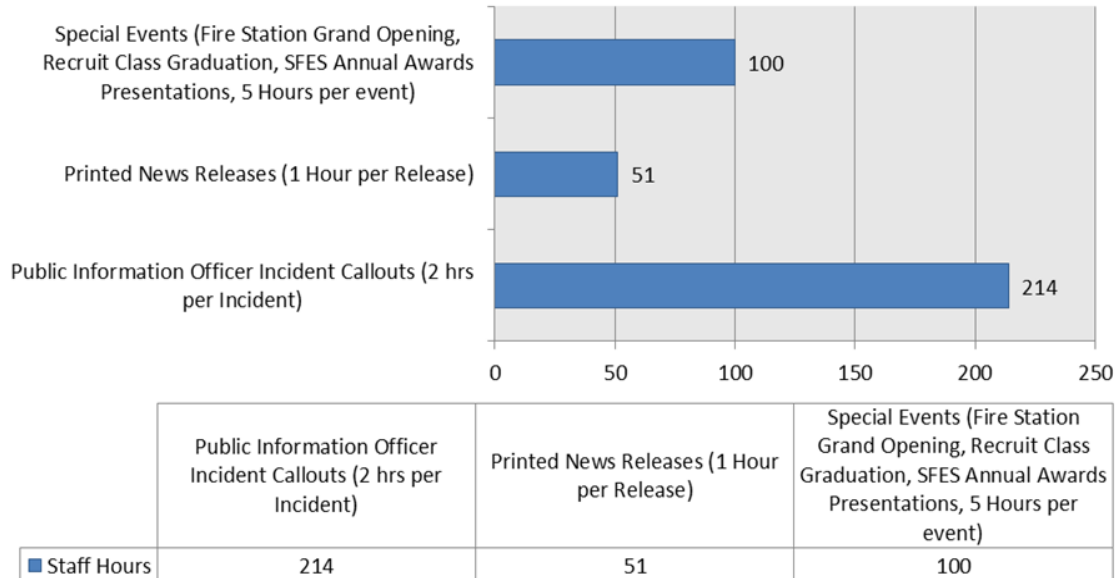
2015 Fire Safety Education Activities: 419



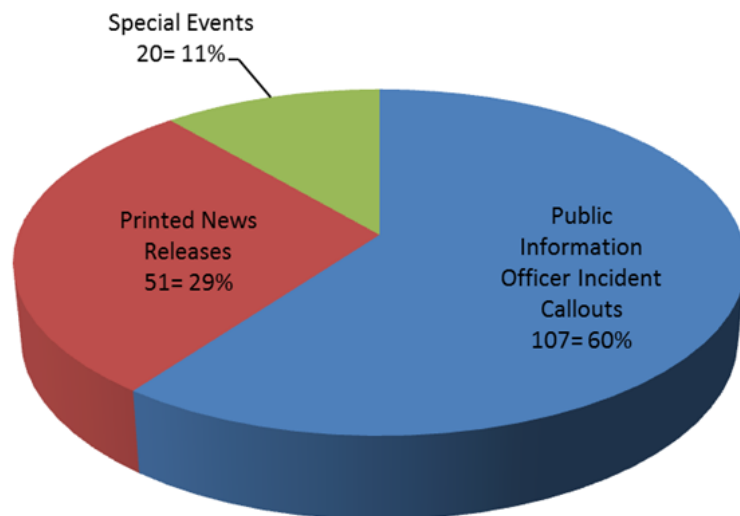


PUBLIC EDUCATION / INFORMATION

2015 Public Information Officer: 420 Staff Hours



2015 Public Information Officer: 178 Events



We hope that you've enjoyed reading our 2015 Annual Report.

Our intent is to show some of the behind-the-scene
activities that contribute to making
Savannah Fire & Emergency Services one of the premier
Fire Departments in the Nation.



“....committed to those we serve”